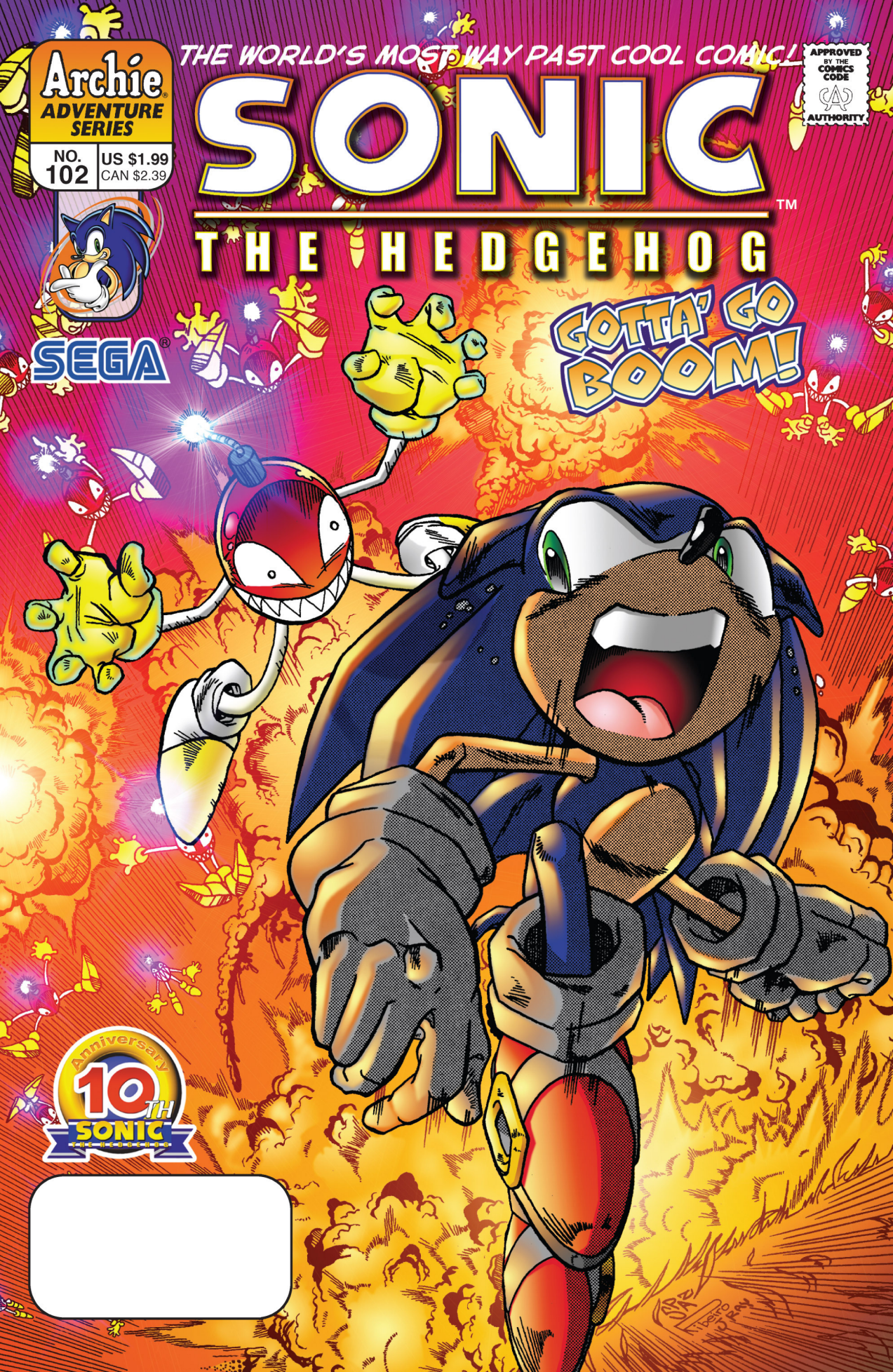
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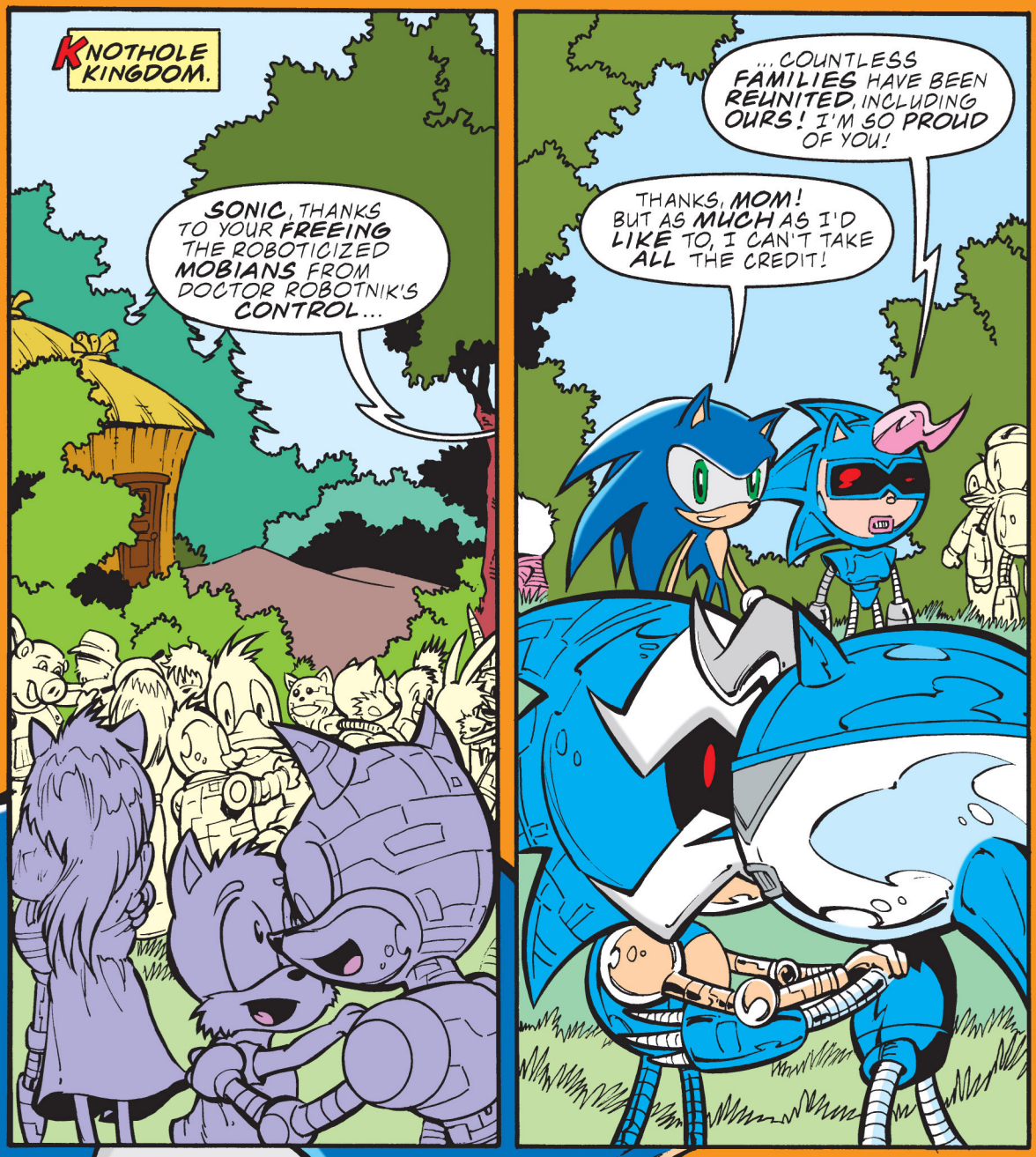
Anniversary
10TH
SONIC


KNOTHOLE KINGDOM.
SONIC, THANKS TO YOUR FREEING THE ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS FROM DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S CONTROL...
...COUNTLESS FAMILIES HAVE BEEN REUNITED, INCLUDING OURS! I'M SO PROUD OF YOU!
THANKS, MOM! BUT AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO, I CAN'T TAKE ALL THE CREDIT!
I HAD SOME HELP!

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WRITER

RON LIM
PENCILER

ANDREW PEPOY + PAM EKLUND
INKERS

JEFF POWELL
LETTERER

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J.F. GABRIE EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR

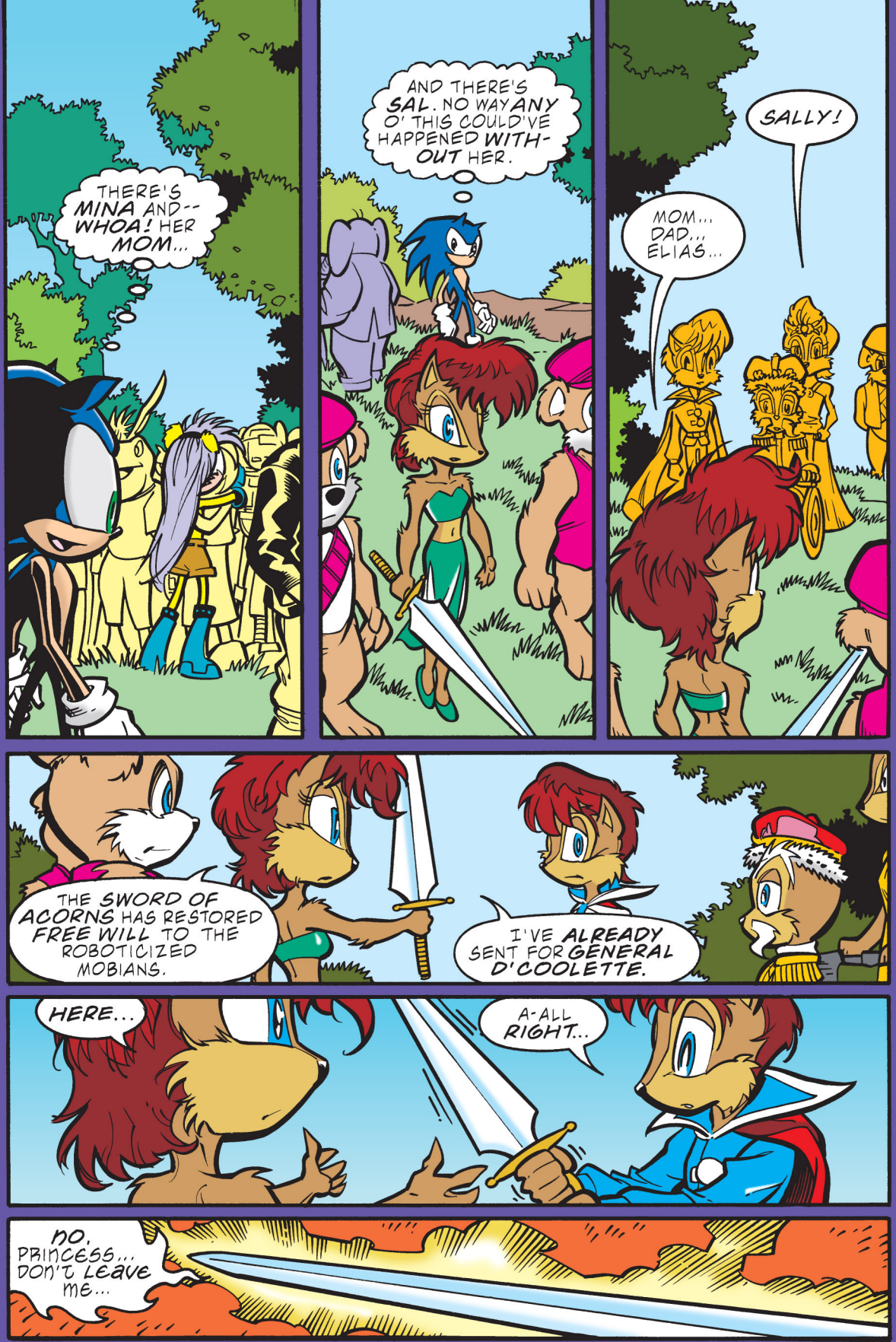
VICTOR GORELICK MANAGING EDITOR

AND

RICHARD GOLDWATER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

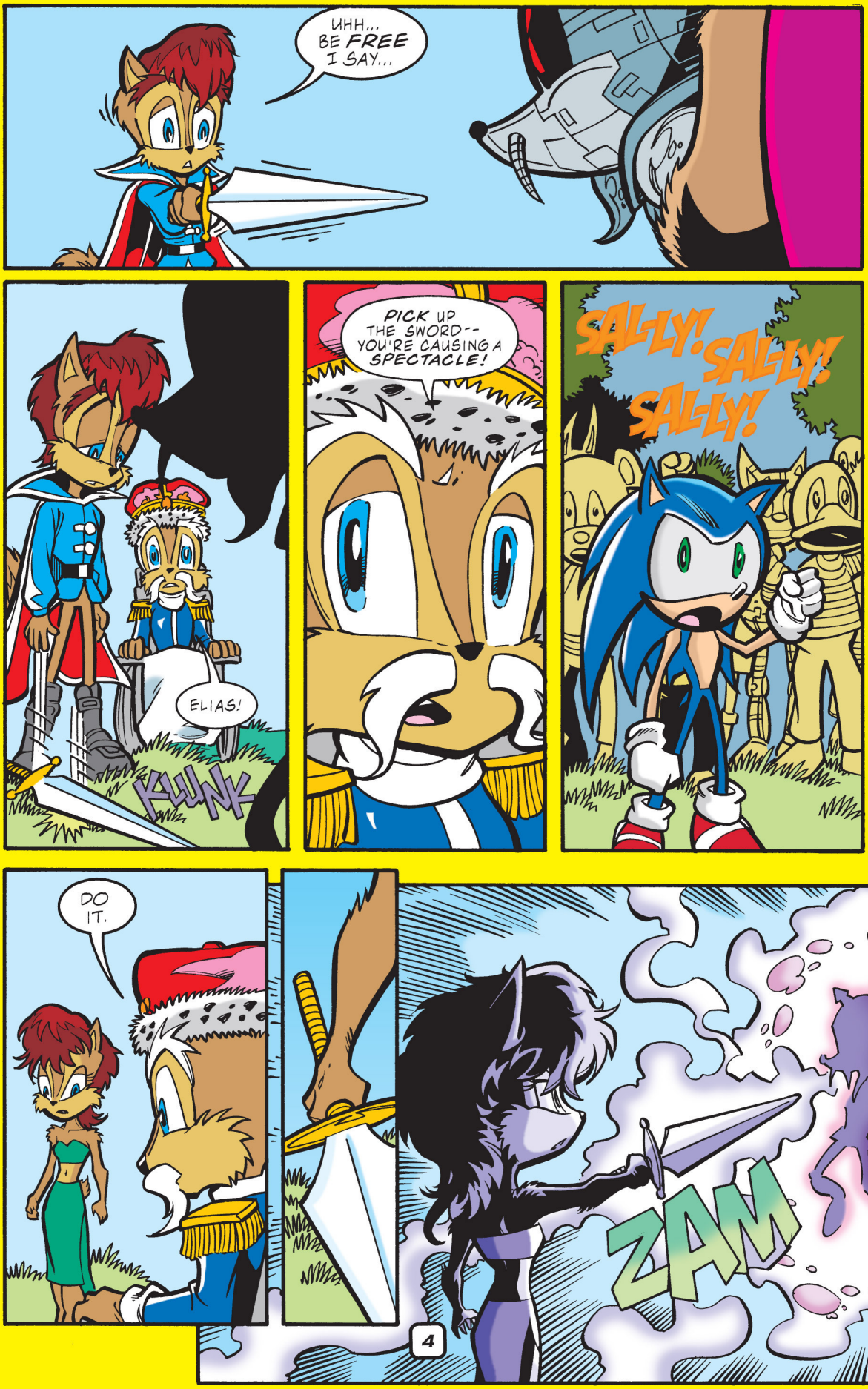
PRESENT:

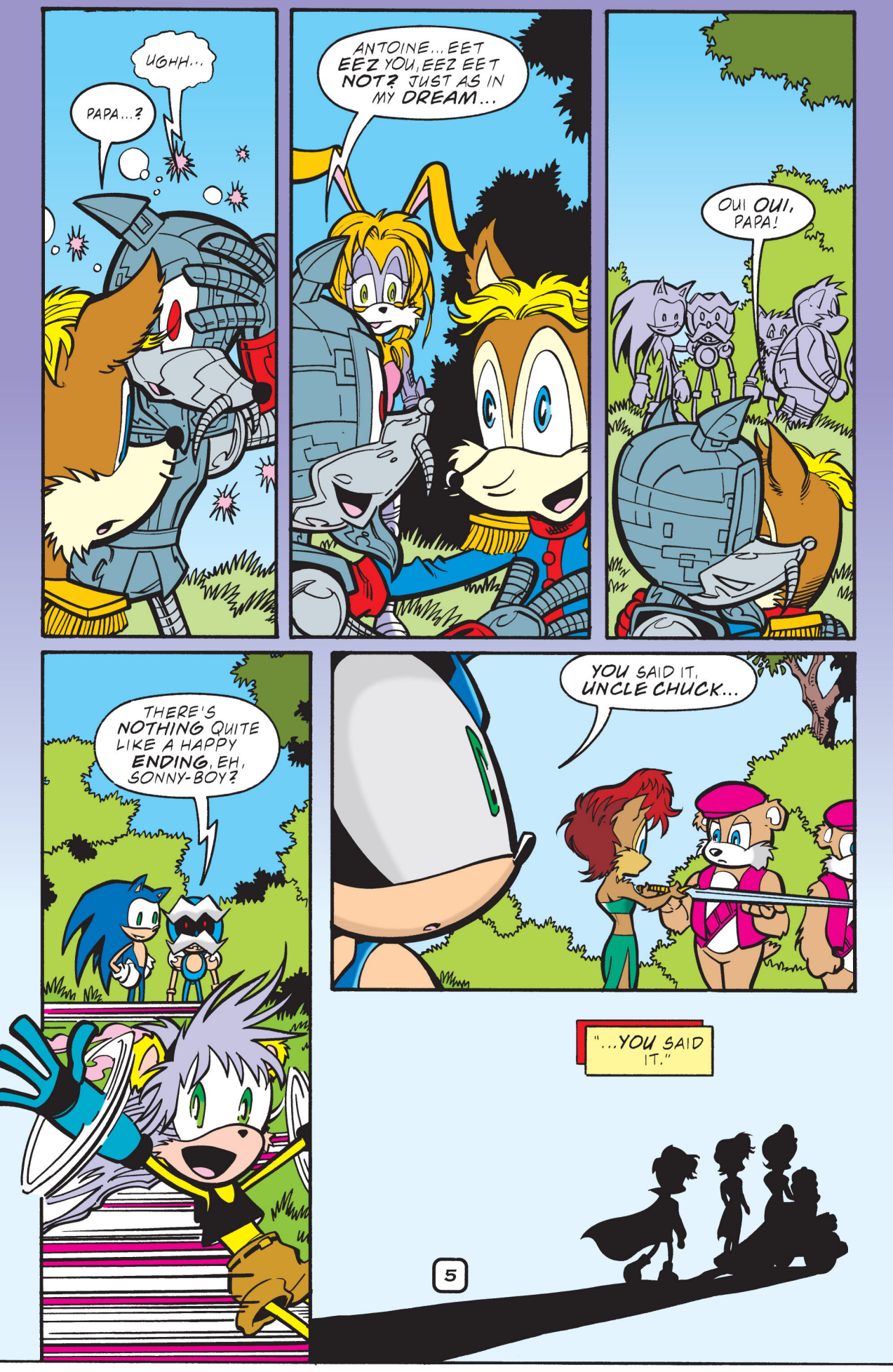
DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY

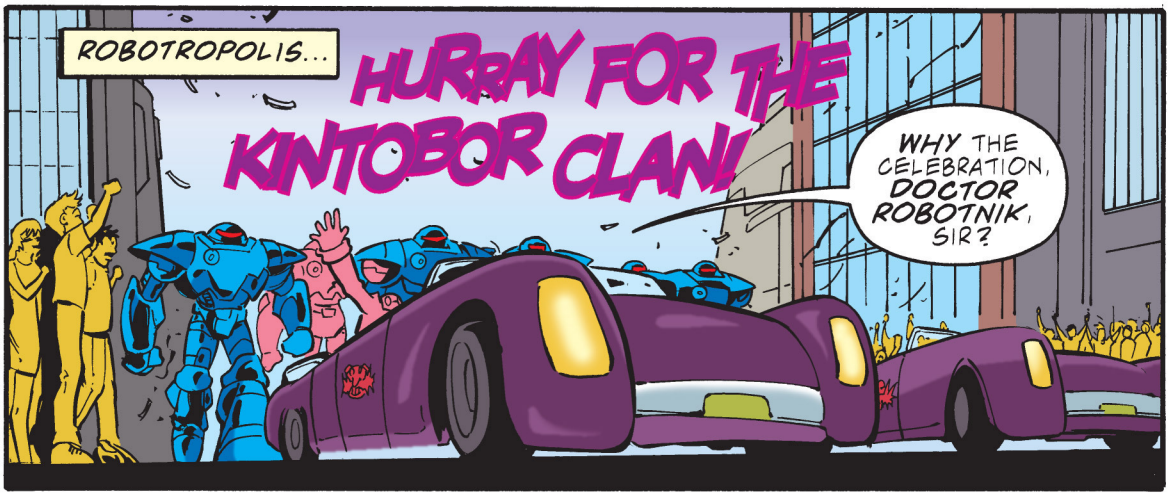

THERE'S MINA AND-- WHOA! HER MOM...
AND THERE'S SAL. NO WAY ANY O' THIS COULD'VE HAPPENED WITH-OUT HER.
SALLY!
MOM... DAD... ELIAS...
THE SWORD OF ACORNS HAS RESTORED FREE WILL TO THE ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS.
I'VE ALREADY SENT FOR GENERAL D'COOLETTE.
HERE...
A-ALL RIGHT...
NO. PRINCESS... DON'T LEAVE ME...

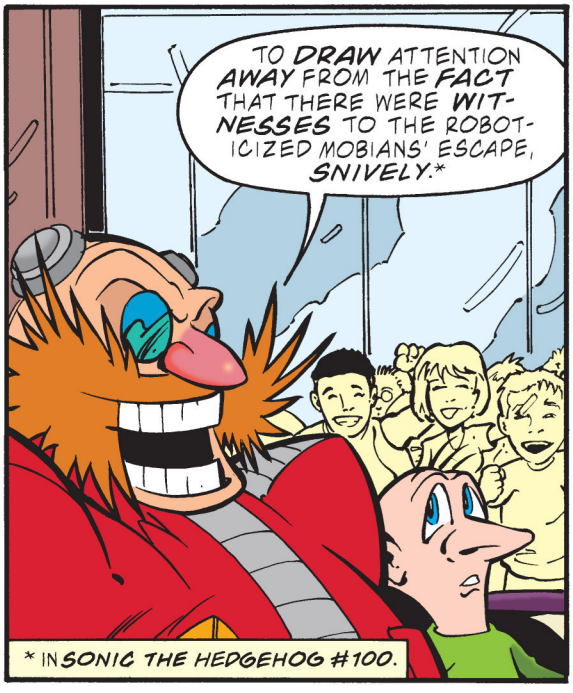
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (ISSN:10705090), No. 102, Dec., 2001. Published every 4 weeks, twice in May by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkleit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies $1.99 in the U.S.; $2.39 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. $25.87 for 13 issues; $31.07 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. © SEGA CORPORATION 2001. All Rights Reserved. SEGA, DREAMCAST, the Dreamcast logo, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters are trademarks or registered trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION or its affiliates. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc., P.O. Box 7639, San Francisco, CA 94120-7639. www.sega.com Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada

THE SWORD--IT SPOKE!
SALLY, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
HM?
I ASKED WHAT YOU WERE THINKING SNEAKING OFF TO ROBOTROPOLIS LIKE THAT? YOU COULD'VE BEEN INJURED OR WORSE!
MOM, I'M NOT A PORCELAIN DOLL ...THE SWORD HAD TO BE RECOVERED...
LOOK!
IT'S THEM!
THE GENERAL-- AND HIS SON!
ANTOINE...
EVERYBODY... PLEASE STAND BACK AND ALLOW US TO APPROACH ZEE FAMILY ROYALE!
3

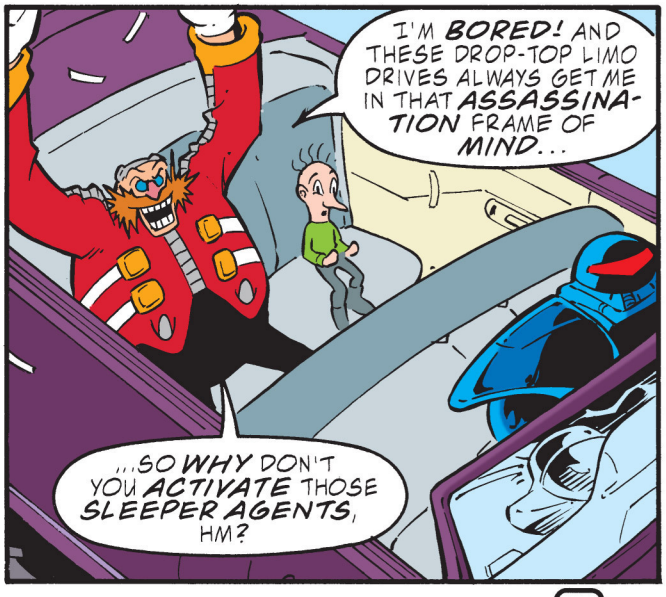

UHH... BE FREE I SAY...
ELIAS!
KLUNK
PICK UP THE SWORD-- YOU'RE CAUSING A SPECTACLE!
SAL-LY! SAL-LY! SAL-LY!
DO IT.
ZAM


UGHH...
PAPA...?
ANTOINE... EET EEZ YOU, EEZ EET NOT? JUST AS IN MY DREAM...
OUI OUI, PAPA!
THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE A HAPPY ENDING, EH, SONNY-BOY?
YOU SAID IT, UNCLE CHUCK...
"...YOU SAID IT."

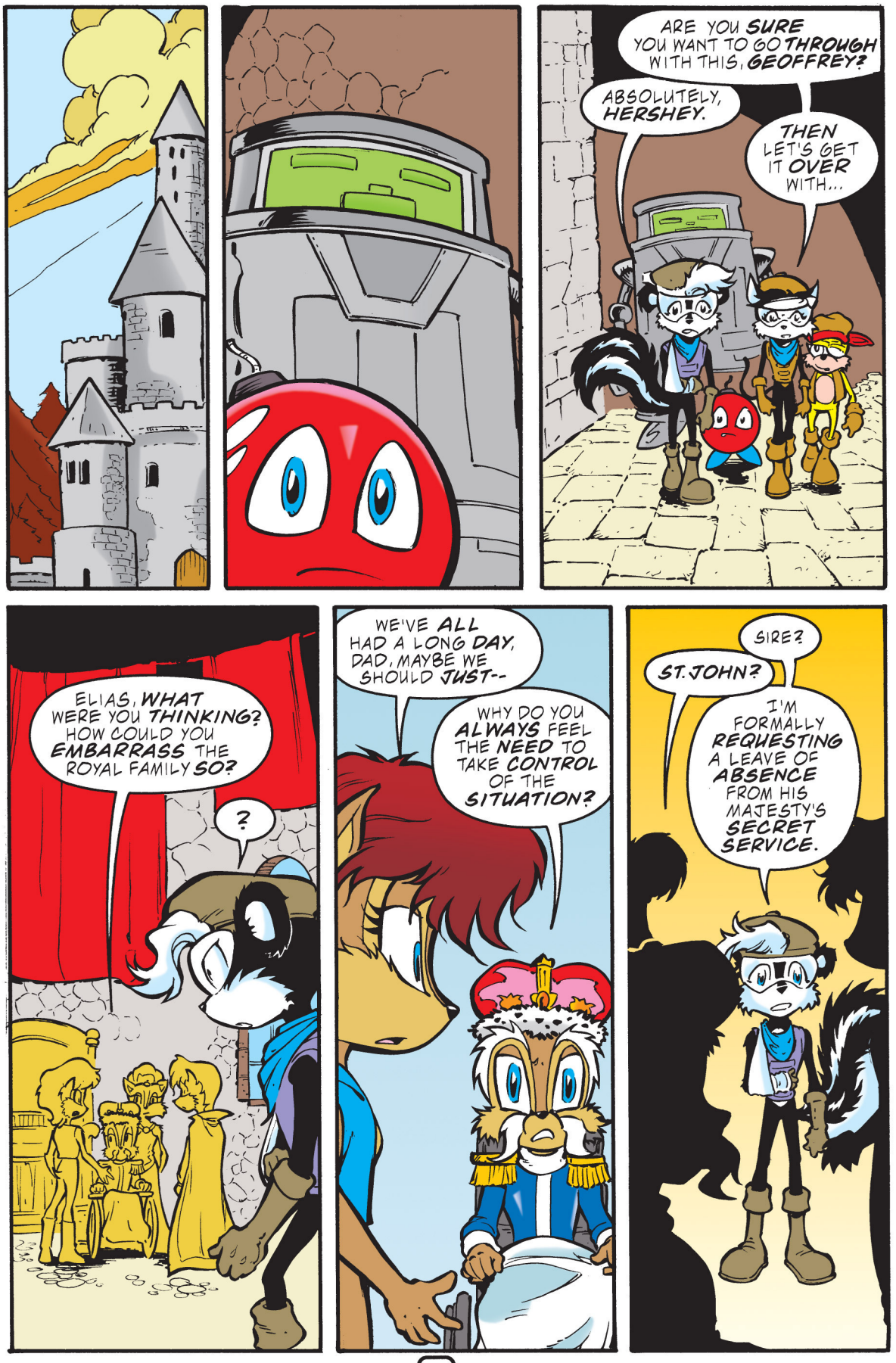

ROBOTROPOLIS...
HURRAY FOR THE KINTOBOR CLAN!
WHY THE CELEBRATION, DOCTOR ROBOTNIK, SIR?

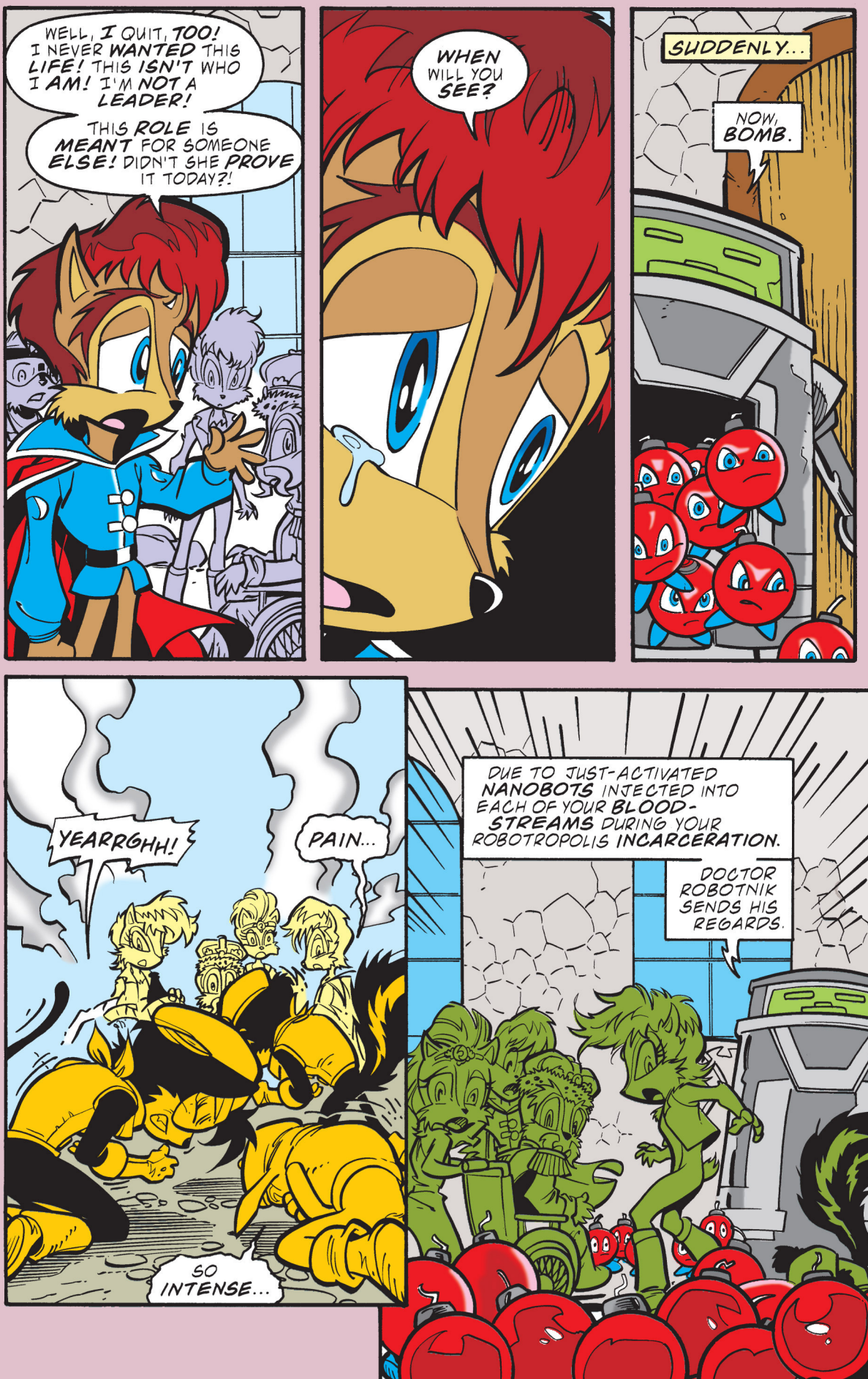

TO DRAW ATTENTION AWAY FROM THE FACT THAT THERE WERE WITNESSES TO THE ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS' ESCAPE, SNIVELY.*
* IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #100.

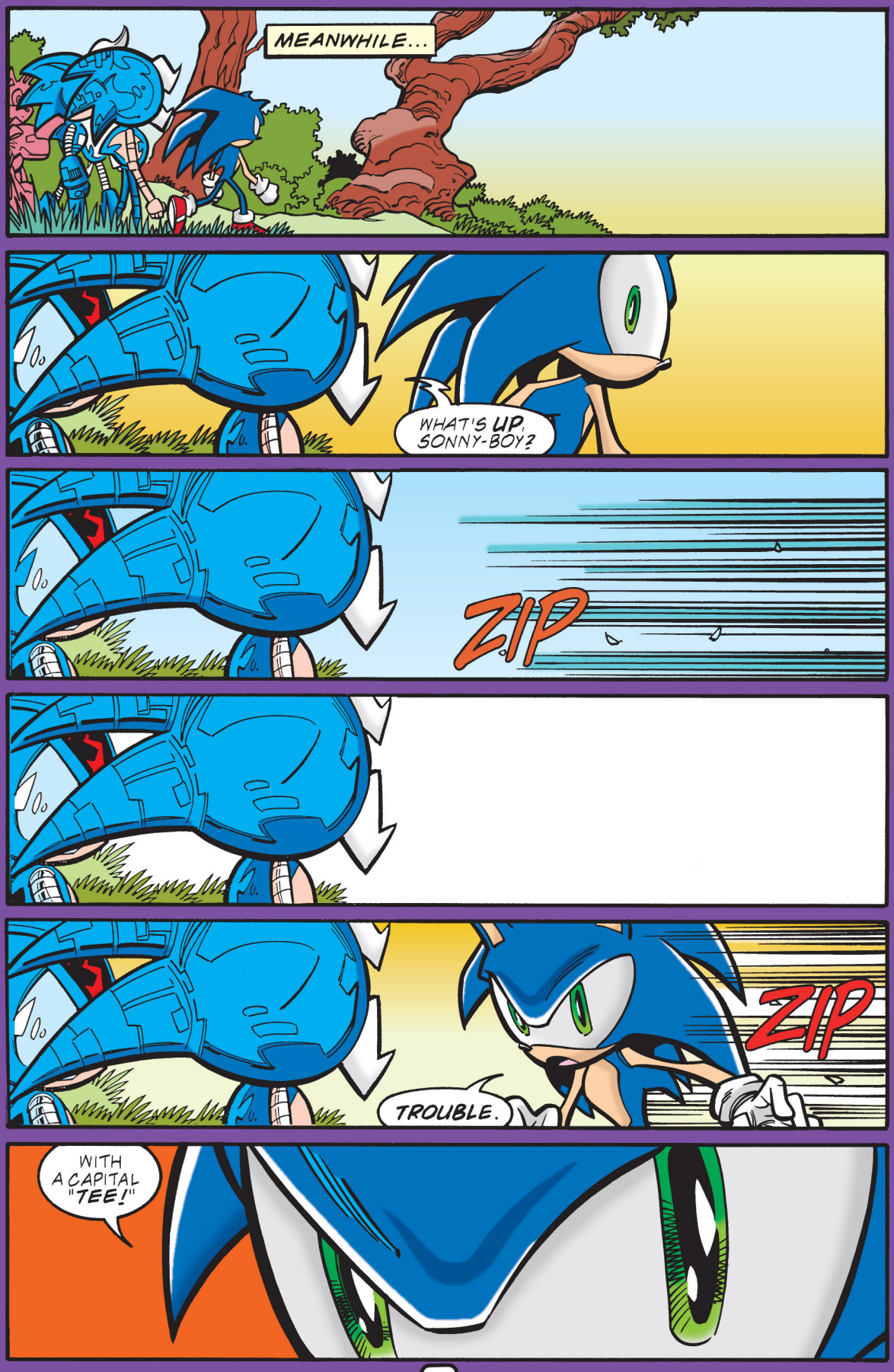
IF THESE PITIFUL SAD SACKS REALIZED SONIC WAS ACTUALLY TRYING TO SAVE THEM FROM ME, THEY WOULDN'T BE CHEERING AT ALL!

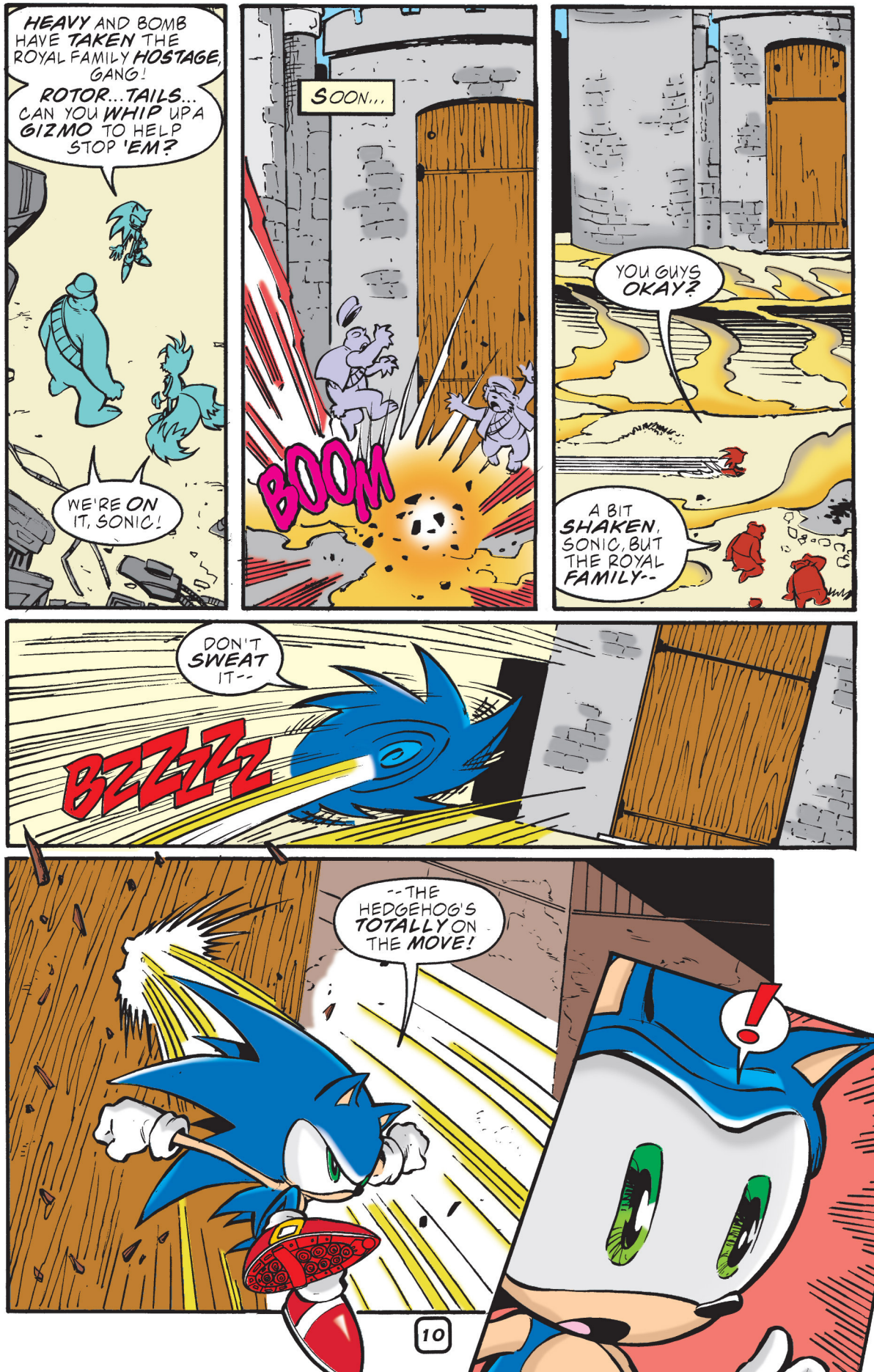

I'M BORED! AND THESE DROP-TOP LIMO DRIVES ALWAYS GET ME IN THAT ASSASSINATION FRAME OF MIND...
...SO WHY DON'T YOU ACTIVATE THOSE SLEEPER AGENTS, HM?

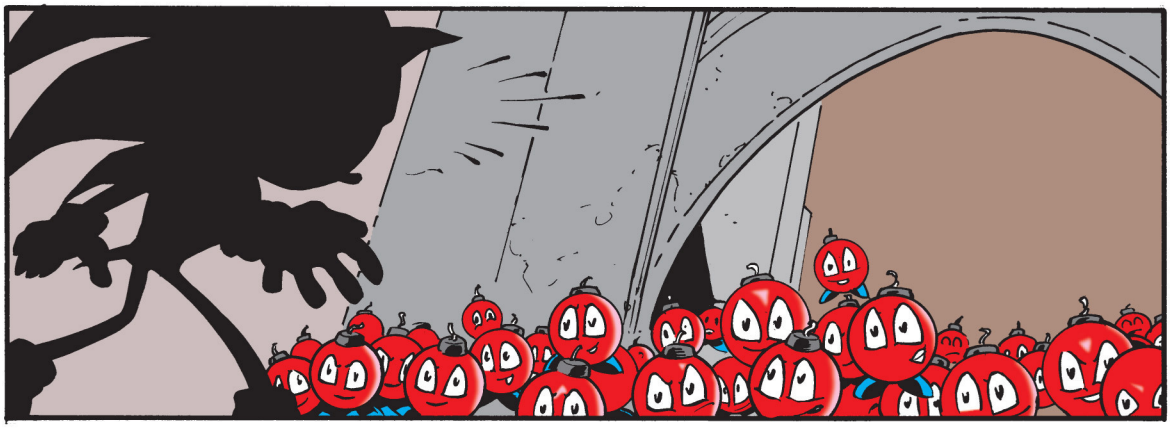
AS YOU WISH...
TEK


ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS, GEOFFREY?
ABSOLUTELY, HERSHEY.
THEN LET'S GET IT OVER WITH...
ELIAS, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING? HOW COULD YOU EMBARRASS THE ROYAL FAMILY SO?
?
WE'VE ALL HAD A LONG DAY, DAD, MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST--
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS FEEL THE NEED TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE SITUATION?
SIRE?
ST. JOHN?
I'M FORMALLY REQUESTING A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM HIS MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE.

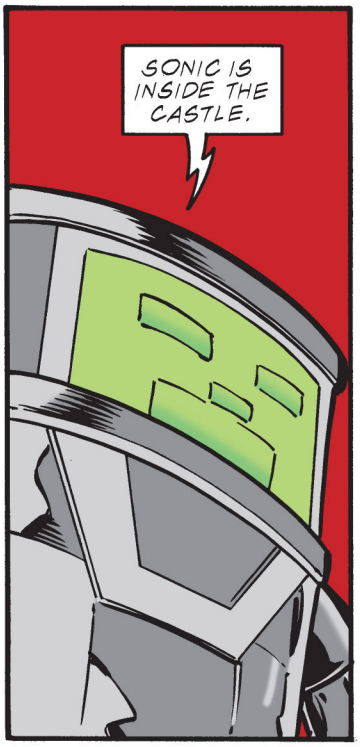

WELL, I QUIT, TOO! I NEVER WANTED THIS LIFE! THIS ISN'T WHO I AM! I'M NOT A LEADER!
THIS ROLE IS MEANT FOR SOMEONE ELSE! DIDN'T SHE PROVE IT TODAY?!
WHEN WILL YOU SEE?
SUDDENLY...
NOW, BOMB.
YEARRGHH!
PAIN...
SO INTENSE...
DUE TO JUST-ACTIVATED NANOBOTS INJECTED INTO EACH OF YOUR BLOOD-STREAMS DURING YOUR ROBOTROPOLIS INCARCERATION.
DOCTOR ROBOTNIK SENDS HIS REGARDS.


MEANWHILE...
WHAT'S UP, SONNY-BOY?
ZIP
ZIP
TROUBLE.
WITH A CAPITAL "TEE!"


HEAVY AND BOMB HAVE TAKEN THE ROYAL FAMILY HOSTAGE, GANG!
ROTOR...TAILS... CAN YOU WHIP UP A GIZMO TO HELP STOP 'EM?
WE'RE ON IT, SONIC!
SOON...
BOOM
YOU GUYS OKAY?
A BIT SHAKEN, SONIC, BUT THE ROYAL FAMILY--
DON'T SWEAT IT--
BZZZZ
--THE HEDGEHOG'S TOTALLY ON THE MOVE!
!



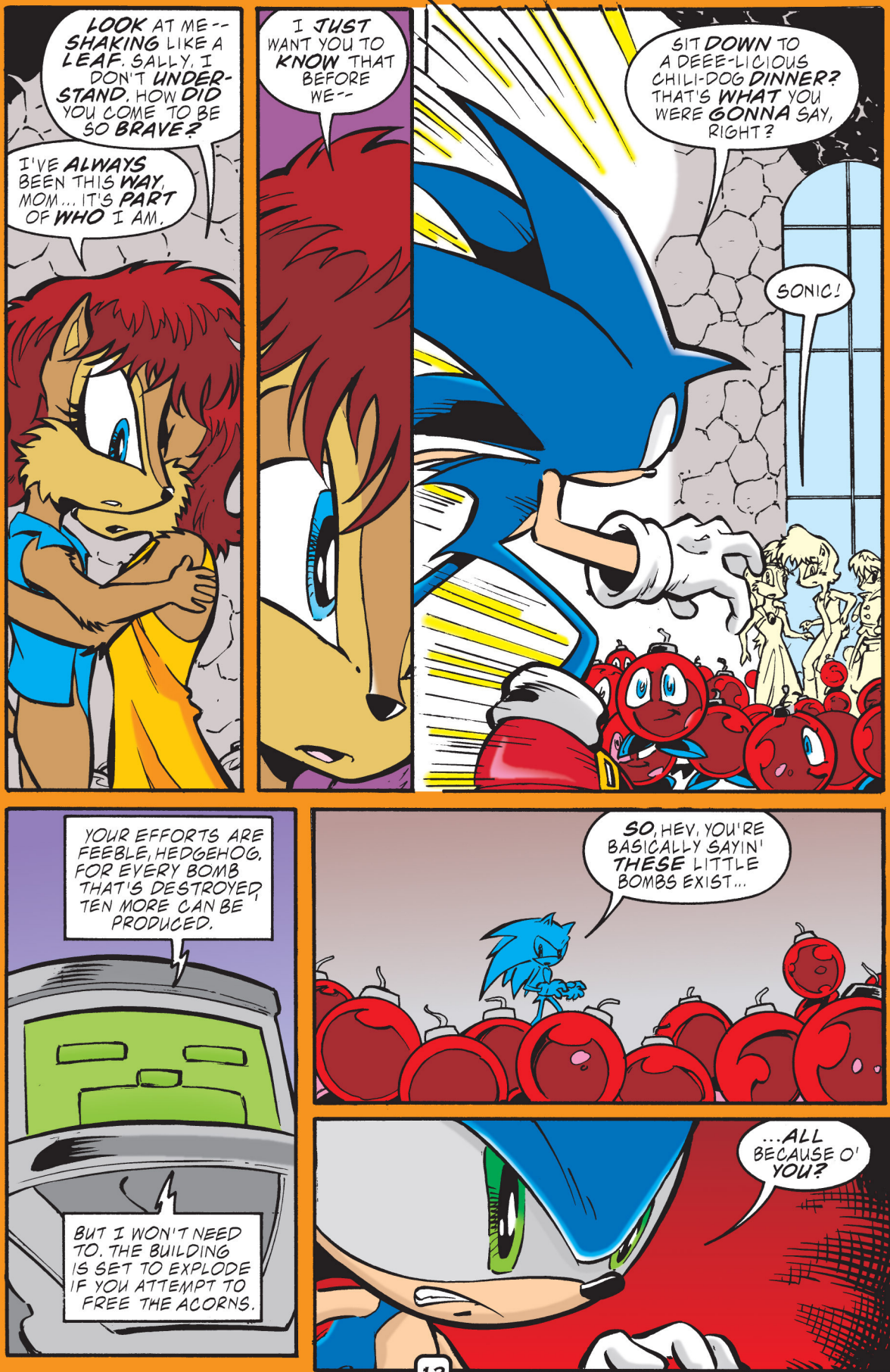
RMMMBBBLLL
WHAT WAS THAT?!
AN EXPLOSION!

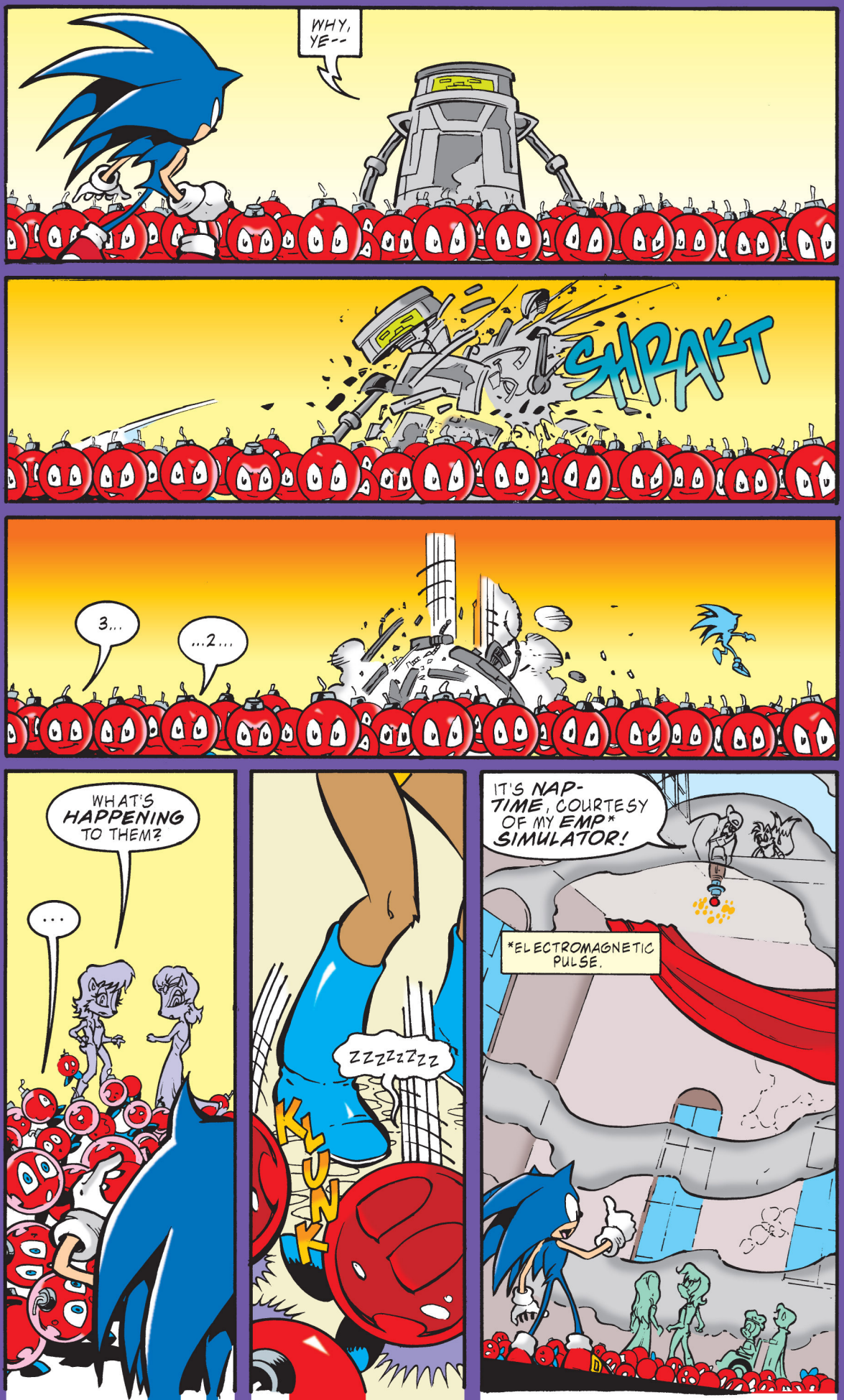

SONIC IS INSIDE THE CASTLE.

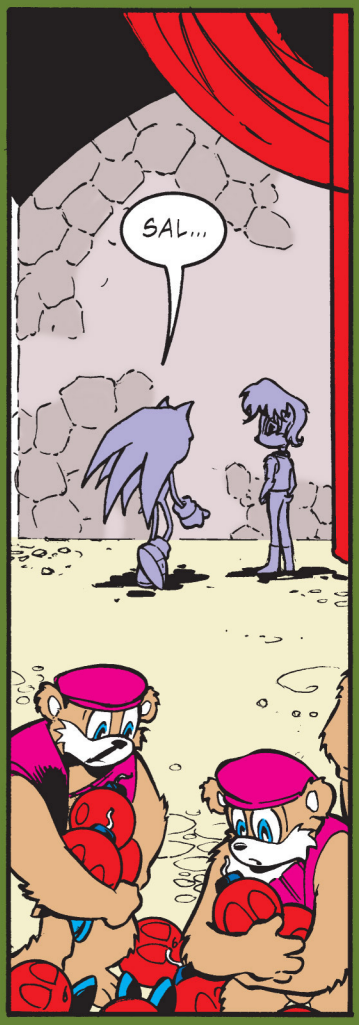
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME HOW YOU FELT FROM THE START, SON?
I KNEW THAT YOU'D PROBABLY BUILT UP SO MANY EXPECTATIONS OVER THE YEARS...

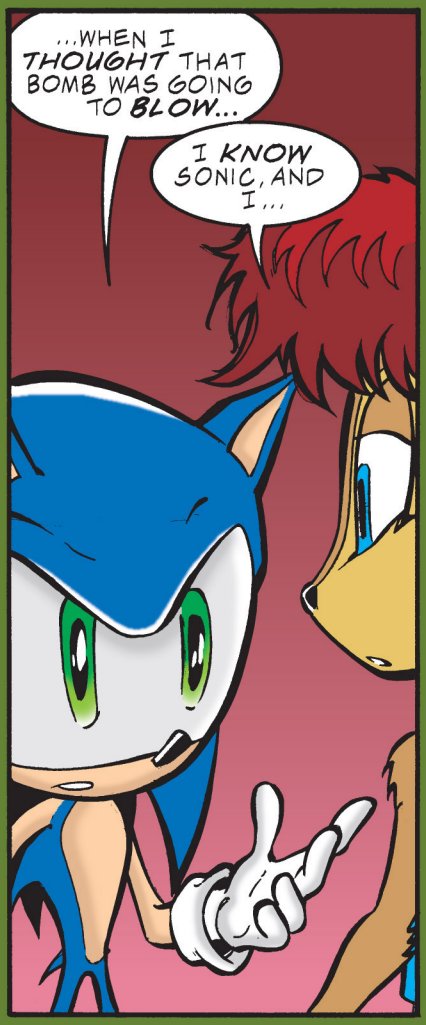
...I DIDN'T WISH TO LET YOU DOWN, FATHER.

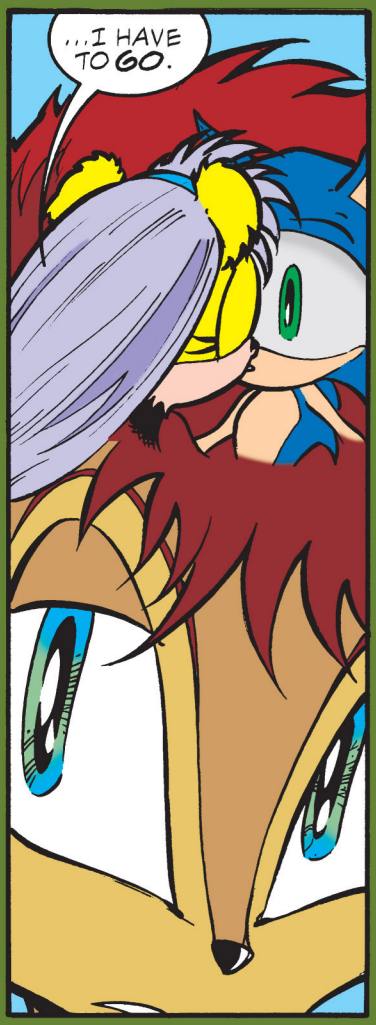
AIIEEE!! STAY AWAY FROM US!

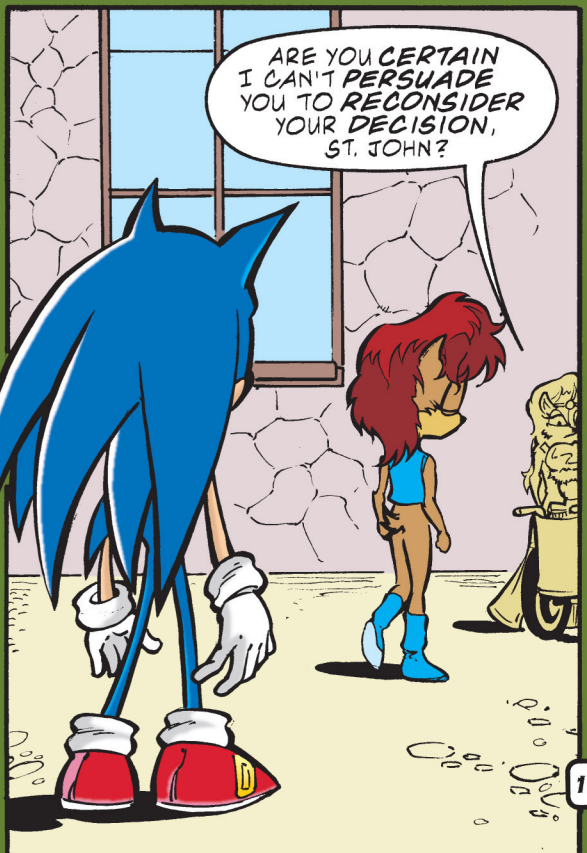

LOOK AT ME-- SHAKING LIKE A LEAF. SALLY, I DON'T UNDER-STAND. HOW DID YOU COME TO BE SO BRAVE?
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY, MOM... IT'S PART OF WHO I AM.
I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT BEFORE WE--
SIT DOWN TO A DEEE-LICIOUS CHILI-DOG DINNER? THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE GONNA SAY, RIGHT?
SONIC!
YOUR EFFORTS ARE FEEBLE, HEDGEHOG. FOR EVERY BOMB THAT'S DESTROYED, TEN MORE CAN BE PRODUCED.
BUT I WON'T NEED TO. THE BUILDING IS SET TO EXPLODE IF YOU ATTEMPT TO FREE THE ACORNS.
SO, HEY, YOU'RE BASICALLY SAYIN' THESE LITTLE BOMBS EXIST...
...ALL BECAUSE O' YOU?


WHY, YE--
SHPAKT
3...
...2...
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THEM?
...
ZZZZZZZZ
KLUNK
IT'S NAP-TIME, COURTESY OF MY EMP* SIMULATOR!
*ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE.

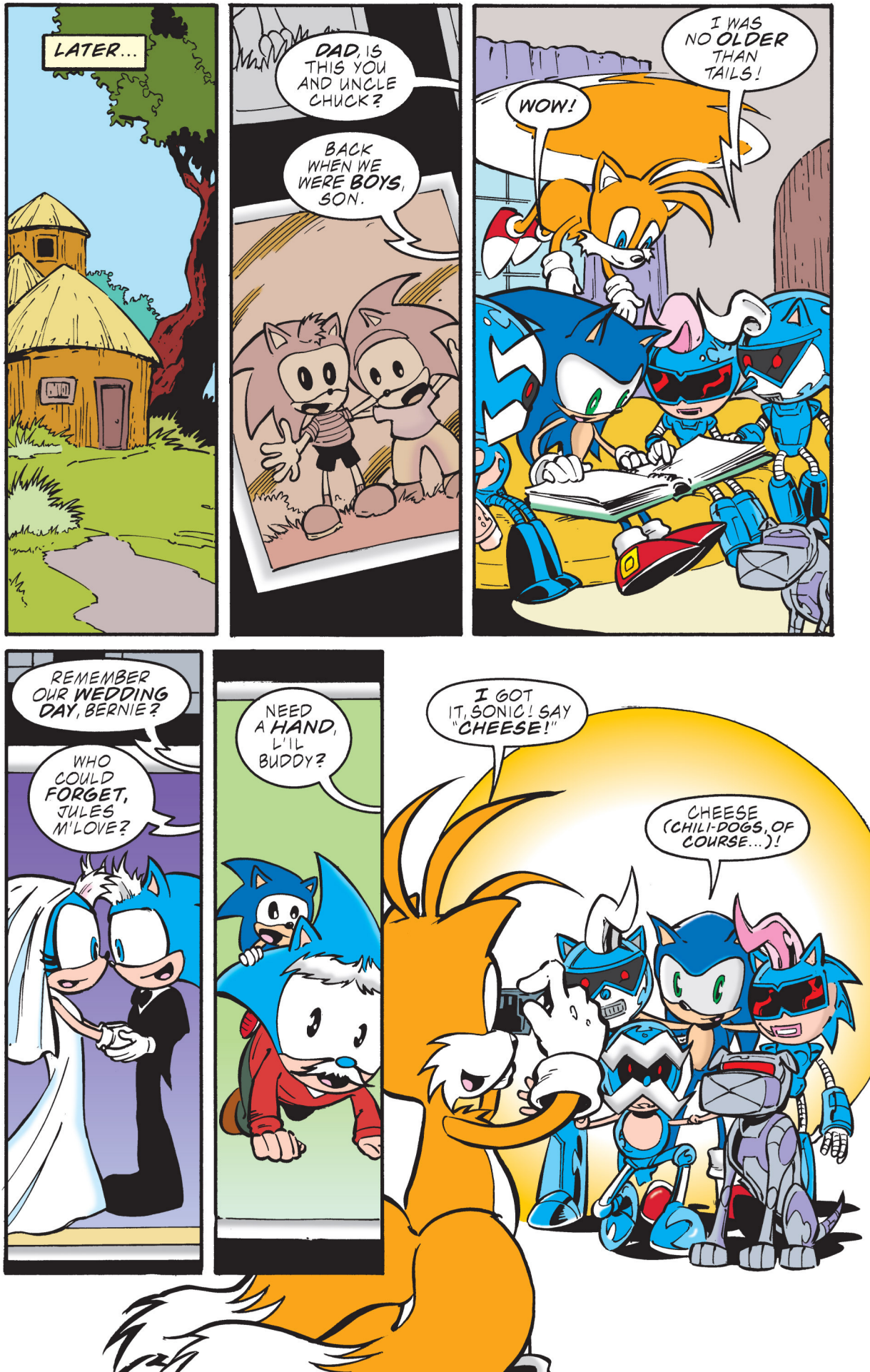

SAL...

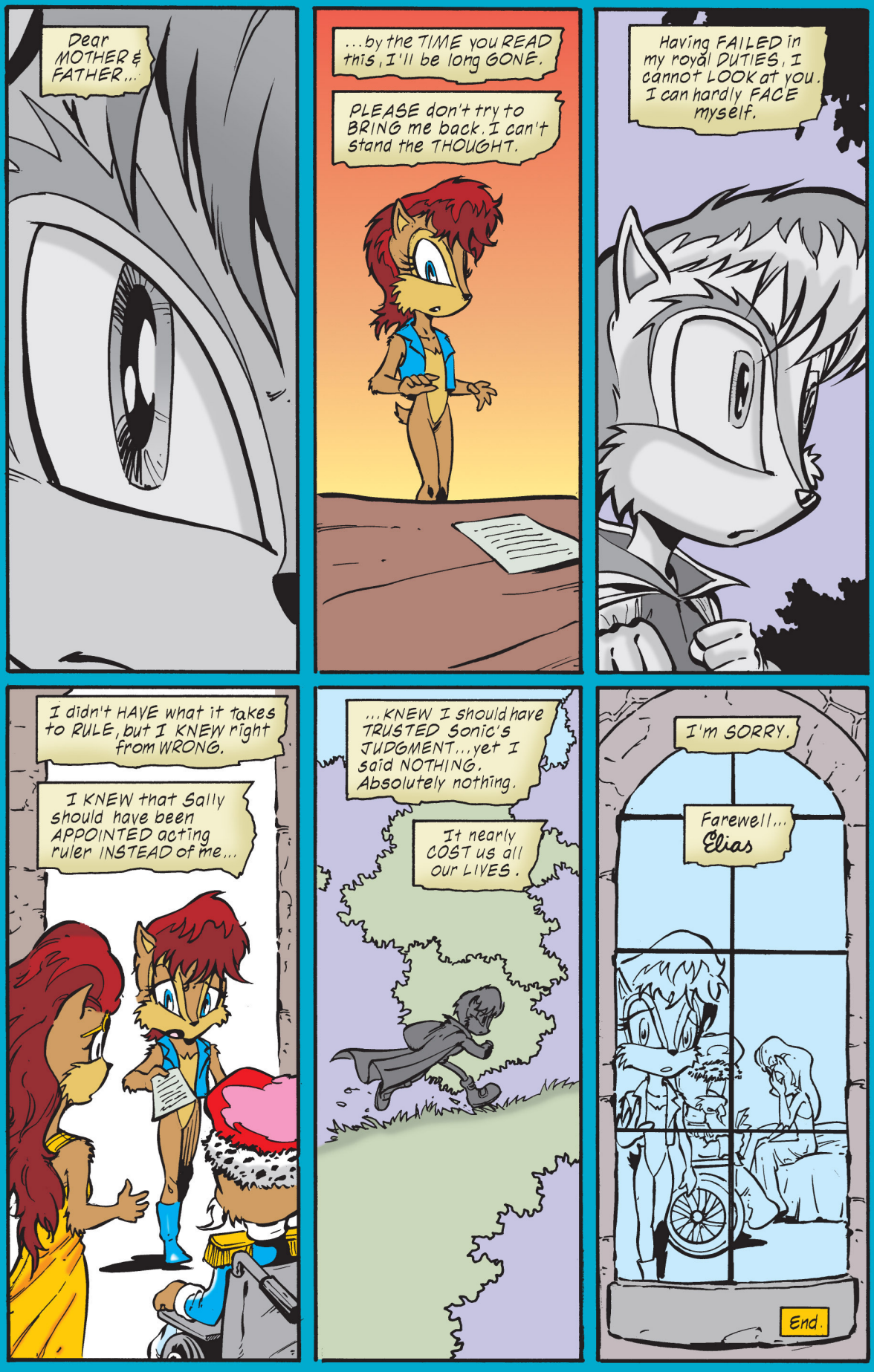

...WHEN I THOUGHT THAT BOMB WAS GOING TO BLOW...
I KNOW SONIC, AND I...


...I HAVE TO GO.


ARE YOU CERTAIN I CAN'T PERSUADE YOU TO RECONSIDER YOUR DECISION, ST. JOHN?

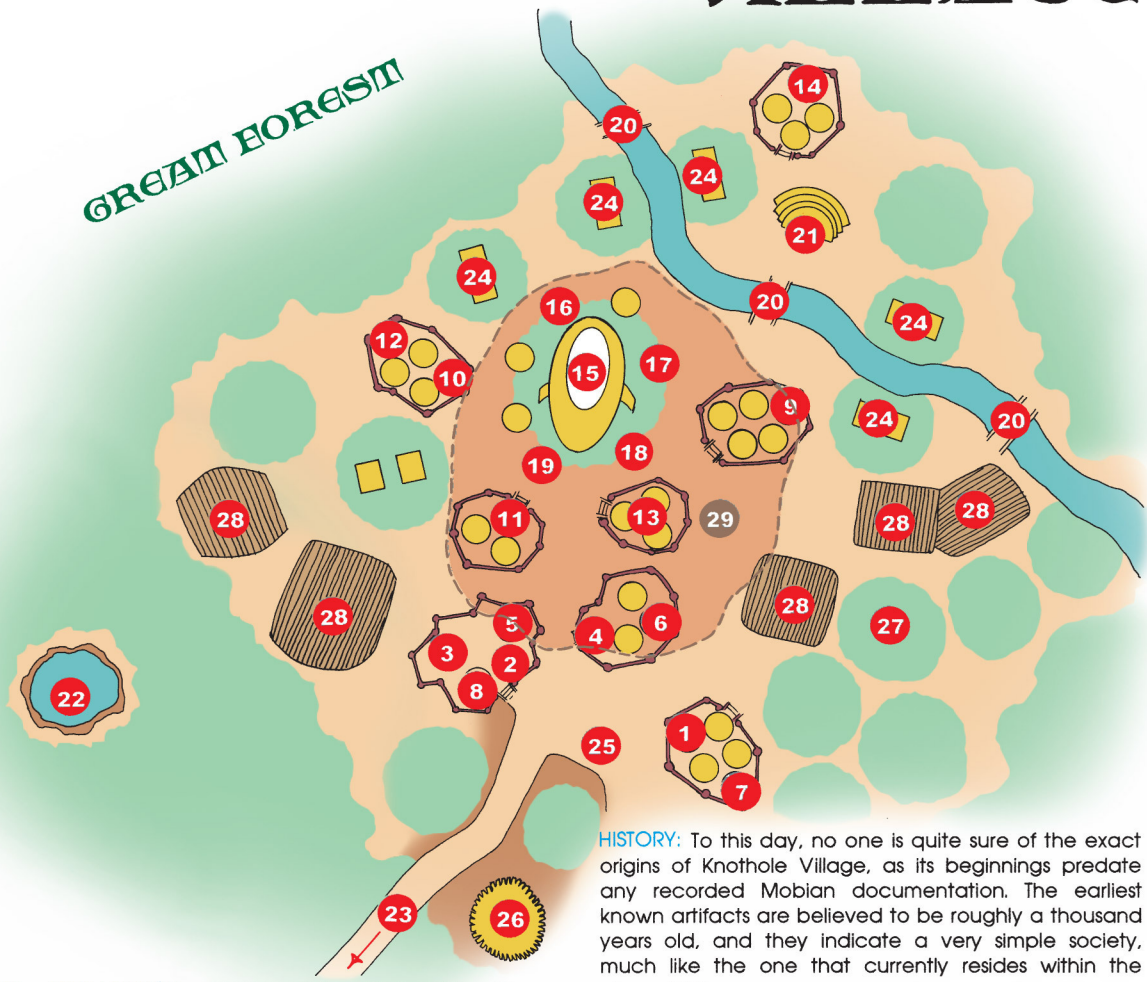
WITH ROBOTNIK'S NANOBOTS INSIDE US, IT WOULD BE BEST IF WE ALL UNDERWENT EXTENSIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT BEFORE RETURNING TO DUTY, SIRE.


LATER...
DAD, IS THIS YOU AND UNCLE CHUCK?
BACK WHEN WE WERE BOYS, SON.
WOW!
I WAS NO OLDER THAN TAILS!
REMEMBER OUR WEDDING DAY, BERNIE?
WHO COULD FORGET, JULES M'LOVE?
NEED A HAND, L'IL BUDDY?
I GOT IT, SONIC! SAY "CHEESE!"
CHEESE (CHILI-DOGS, OF COURSE...)!


Dear MOTHER & FATHER...
...by the TIME you READ this, I'll be long GONE.
PLEASE don't try to BRING me back. I can't stand the THOUGHT.
Having FAILED in my royal DUTIES, I cannot LOOK at you. I can hardly FACE myself.
I didn't HAVE what it takes to RULE, but I KNEW right from WRONG.
I KNEW that Sally should have been APPOINTED acting ruler INSTEAD of me...
...KNEW I should have TRUSTED Sonic's JUDGMENT...yet I said NOTHING. Absolutely nothing.
It nearly COST us all our LIVES.
I'm SORRY.
Farewell... Elias
End.

SEGA DATA FILE: 3

KNOTHOLE VILLAGE



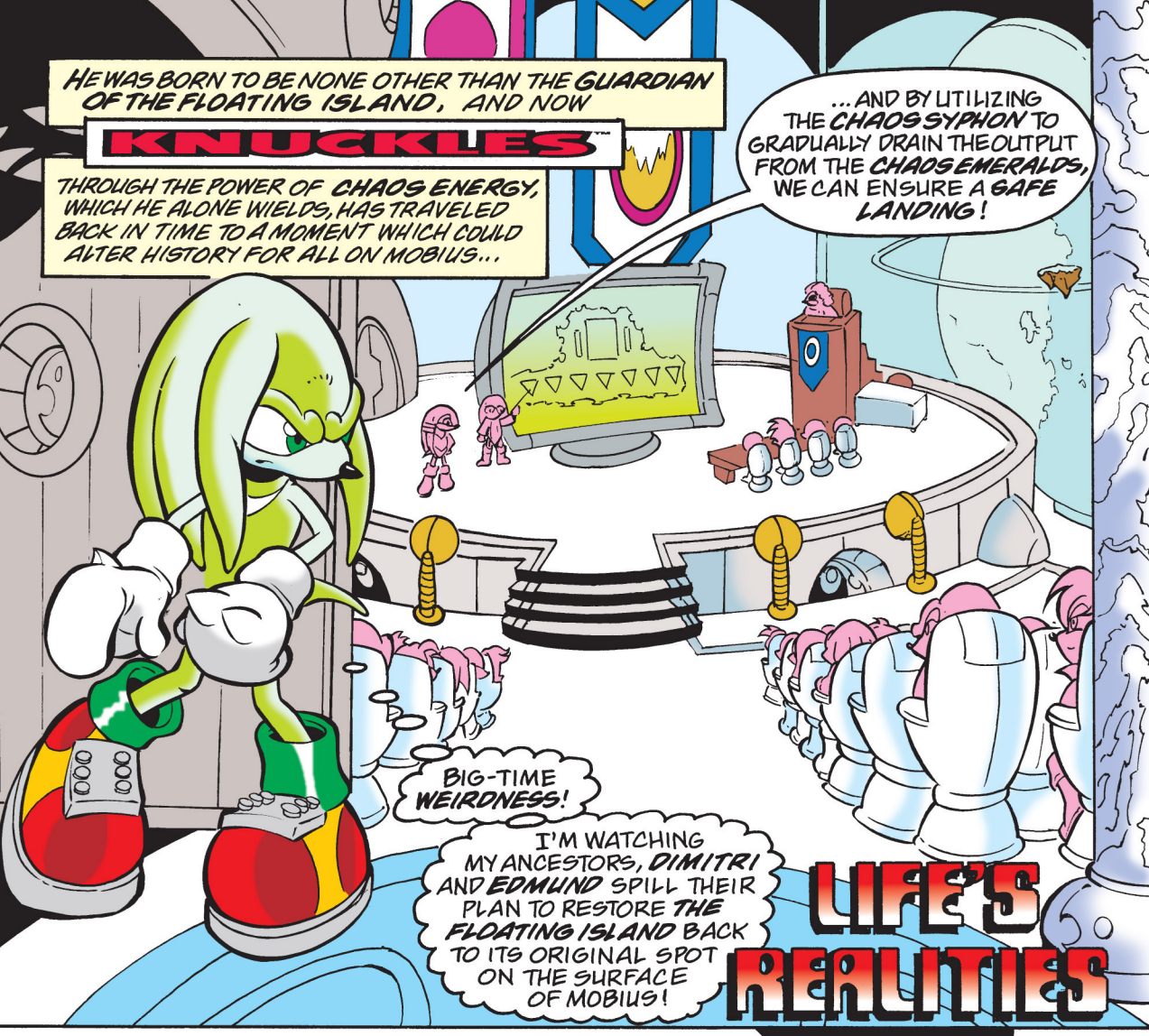
FIRST APPEARANCE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #0, February 1993.
SURFACE SIZE: Approx. 1.3 sq. metrons above ground, total size underground unknown as the labyrinth of tunnelling reaches out quite extensively.
CLIMATE: Generally warm, sunny days with cooler nights, occasional rainstorms with thunder and lightning
POPULATION: Over 3,487 subjects to the Crown of Acorn, consisting of over 78 different sentient species
TALLEST TREE: 1592 marks (oak)
DISTANCE TO MOBOTROPOLIS (AKA Robotropolis): 13.4 metrons
POINTS OF INTEREST: (1) Sonic's Shack (2) Sally's Sanctum (3) Tail's Bunk (4) Antoine's Hut (5) Bunnie's Grotto (6) Rotor's Lab (7) Amy Rose's Burrow (8) Rosie's Cottage (9) Hamlin's Trough (10) Dylan's Digs (11) Penelope's Pad (12) Arlo's Abode (13) The Royal Compound (14) Doctor Quack's Domicile (he has no official office due to the fact he makes house calls) (15) Meeting Area (16) Village Lock-Up (17) Village General Store (18) Medical Clinic (19) Emergency Center (20) Wooden bridge (21) Performance Arena (22) Power Ring Spring (23) Path to Knothole Elevator (which leads to Great Desert) (24) Treehouse Apartments (25) Solar Windmill (26) Big Haystack (27) Hidden entrance to the tunnel network (28) Village Gardens (29) Underground cavern

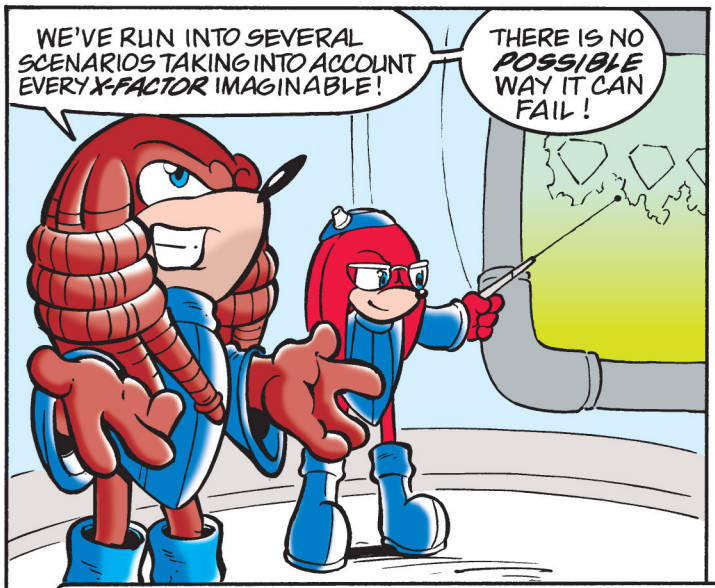
HISTORY: To this day, no one is quite sure of the exact origins of Knothole Village, as its beginnings predate any recorded Mobian documentation. The earliest known artifacts are believed to be roughly a thousand years old, and they indicate a very simple society, much like the one that currently resides within the village limits.

Over the passage of many years, the village evolved into a retreat for many of the citizens of Mobotropolis looking for a break from the pace of city life. When Mobotropolis was attacked by outside forces for the first time, it was then the village came to be regarded as a sanctuary upon realizing the natural environment of the Great Forest protected it against discovery.

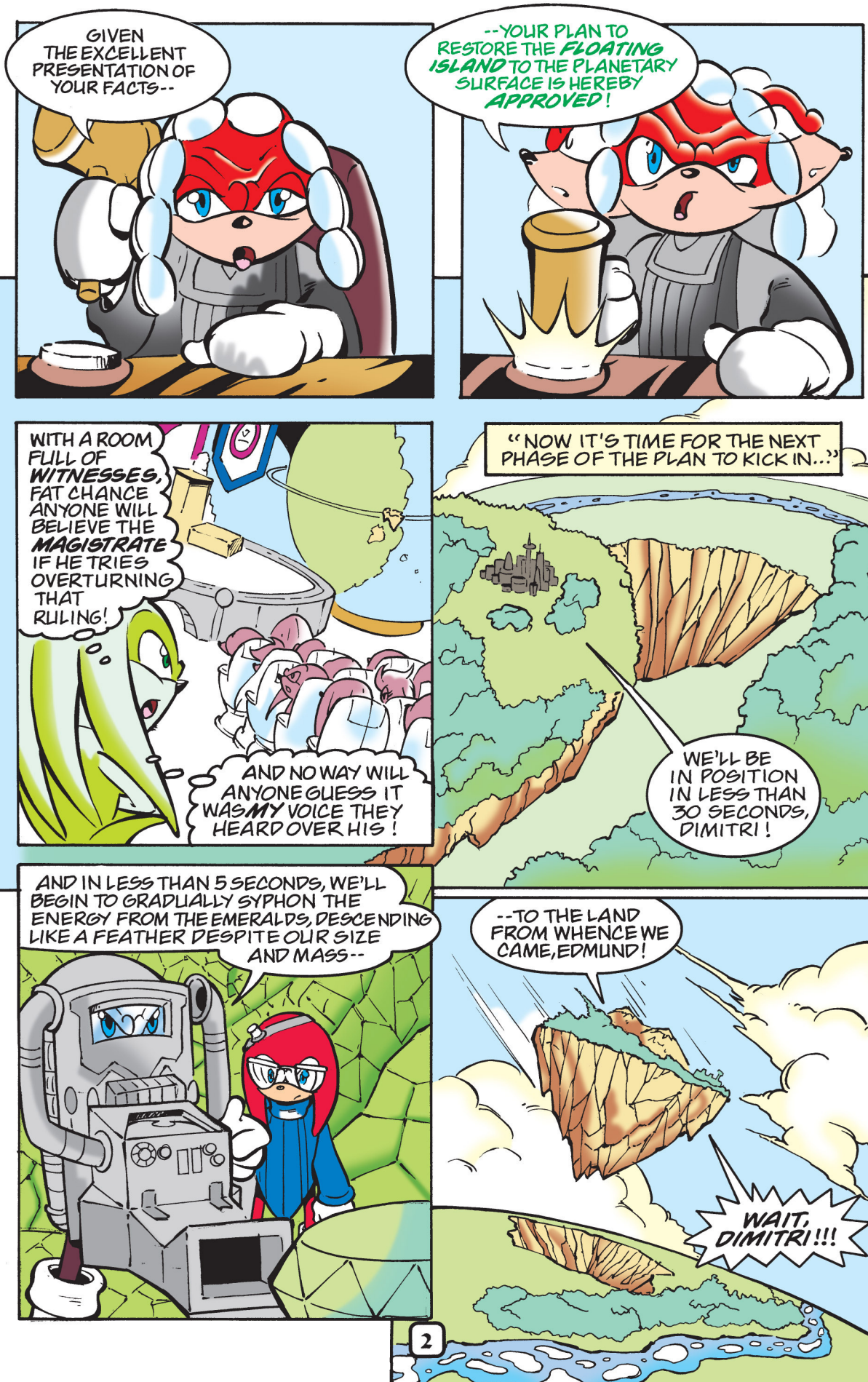
The residence that King Theodore had retired to was transformed into a Royal Command Post where King Acorn conducted the prosecution of the war against the Overlanders. Upon winning the war, King Acorn then relocated back to the city. Shortly thereafter, Warlord Julian seized power, assigned the King into a nether-zone known as the Void, and waged systemic roboticization against the populace. Only a fortunate few managed to return to the village, including the King's daughter Sally, who would eventually train and lead various bands of freedom fighters against the evil despot, making extensive use of the underground network of tunnels that are known but to a select few.

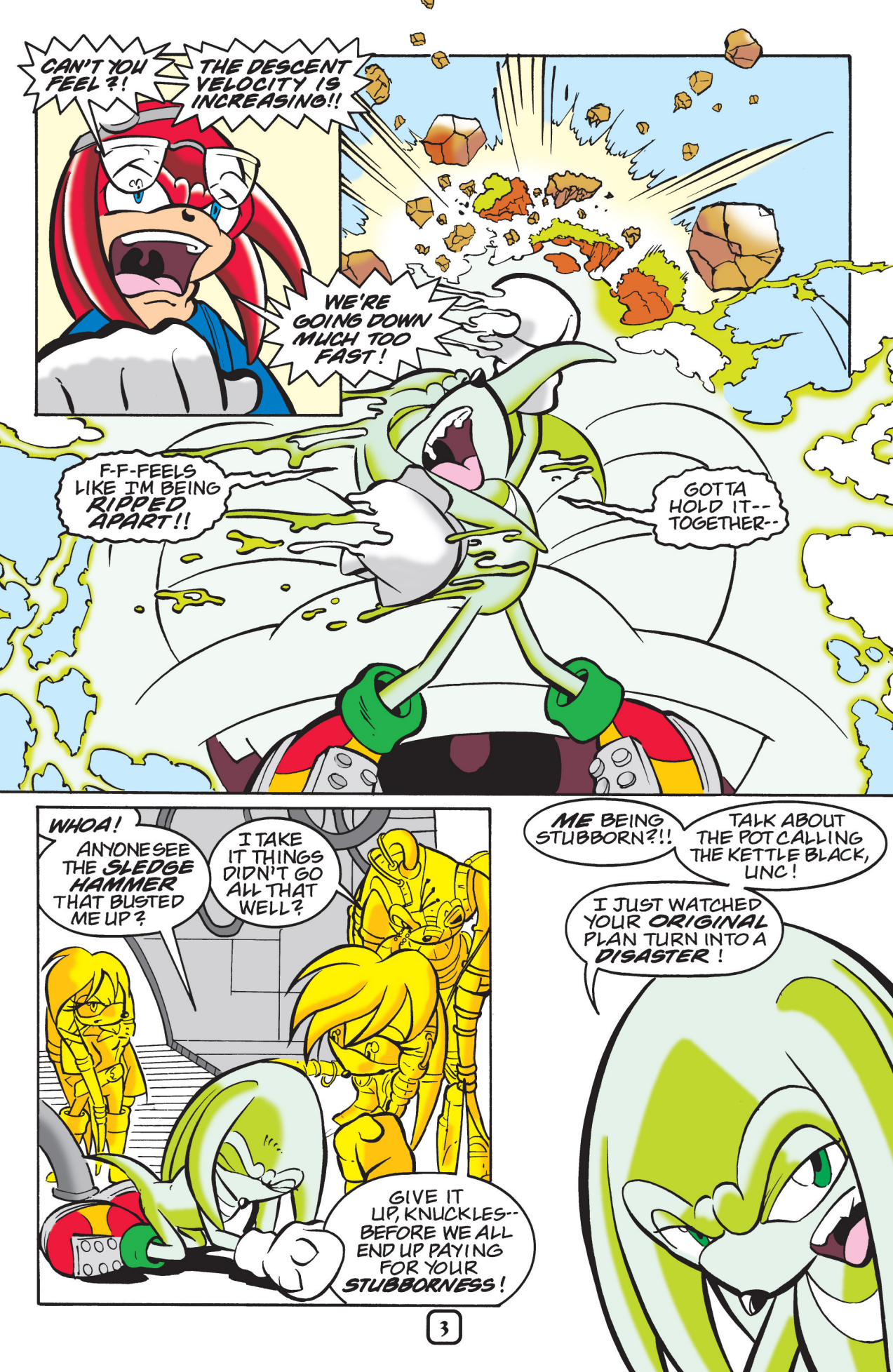
Since the demise of Julian and the rise to power of his successor, Knothole Village continues to be both home and safe haven for all who dwell there.

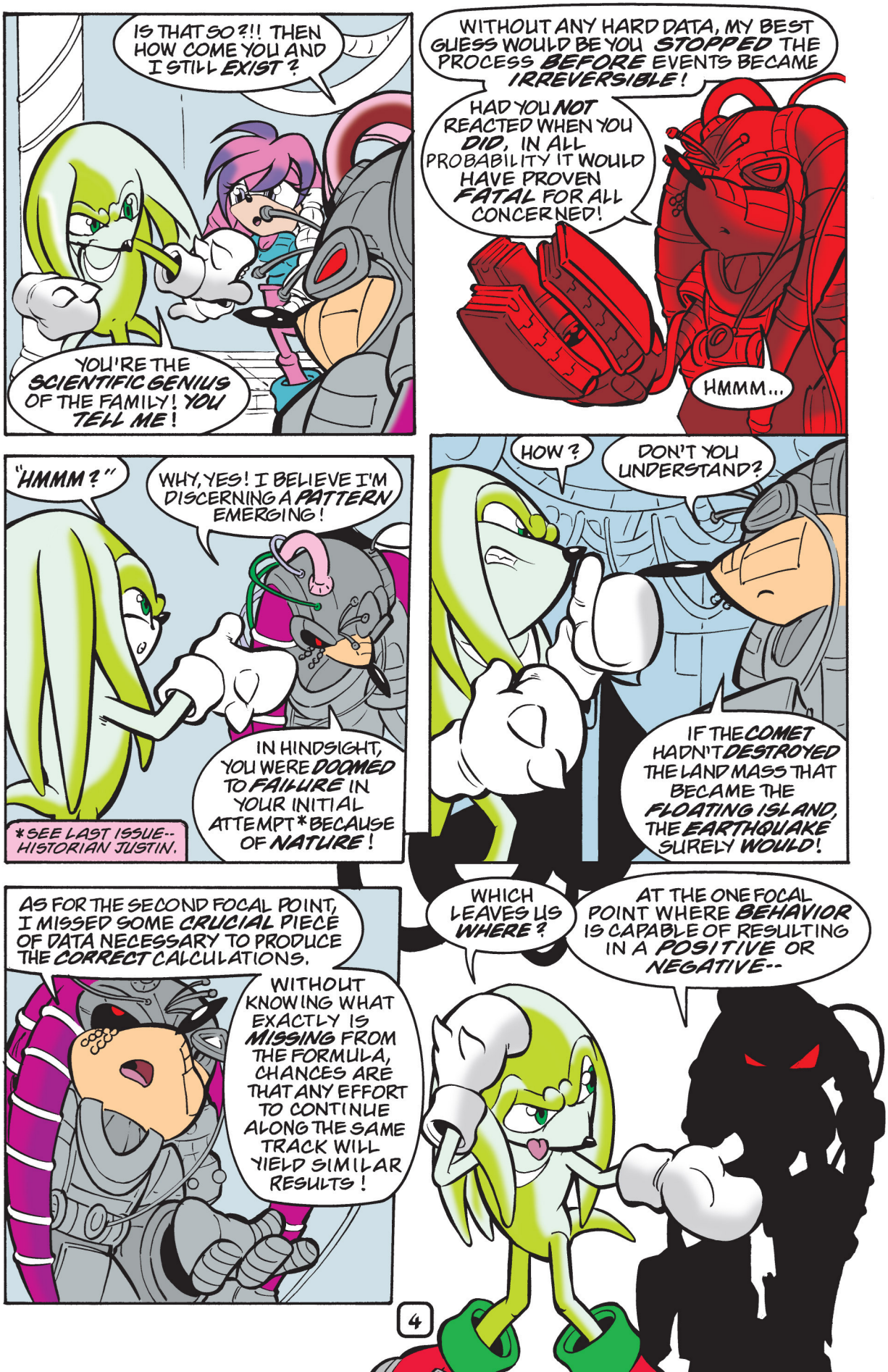

HE WAS BORN TO BE NONE OTHER THAN THE GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, AND NOW
KNUCKLES
THROUGH THE POWER OF CHAOS ENERGY, WHICH HE ALONE WIELDS, HAS TRAVELED BACK IN TIME TO A MOMENT WHICH COULD ALTER HISTORY FOR ALL ON MOBIUS...
...AND BY UTILIZING THE CHAOS SYPHON TO GRADUALLY DRAIN THE OUTPUT FROM THE CHAOS EMERALDS, WE CAN ENSURE A SAFE LANDING!
BIG-TIME WEIRDNESS!
I'M WATCHING MY ANCESTORS, DIMITRI AND EDMUND SPILL THEIR PLAN TO RESTORE THE FLOATING ISLAND BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL SPOT ON THE SURFACE OF MOBIUS!
LIFE'S REALITIES

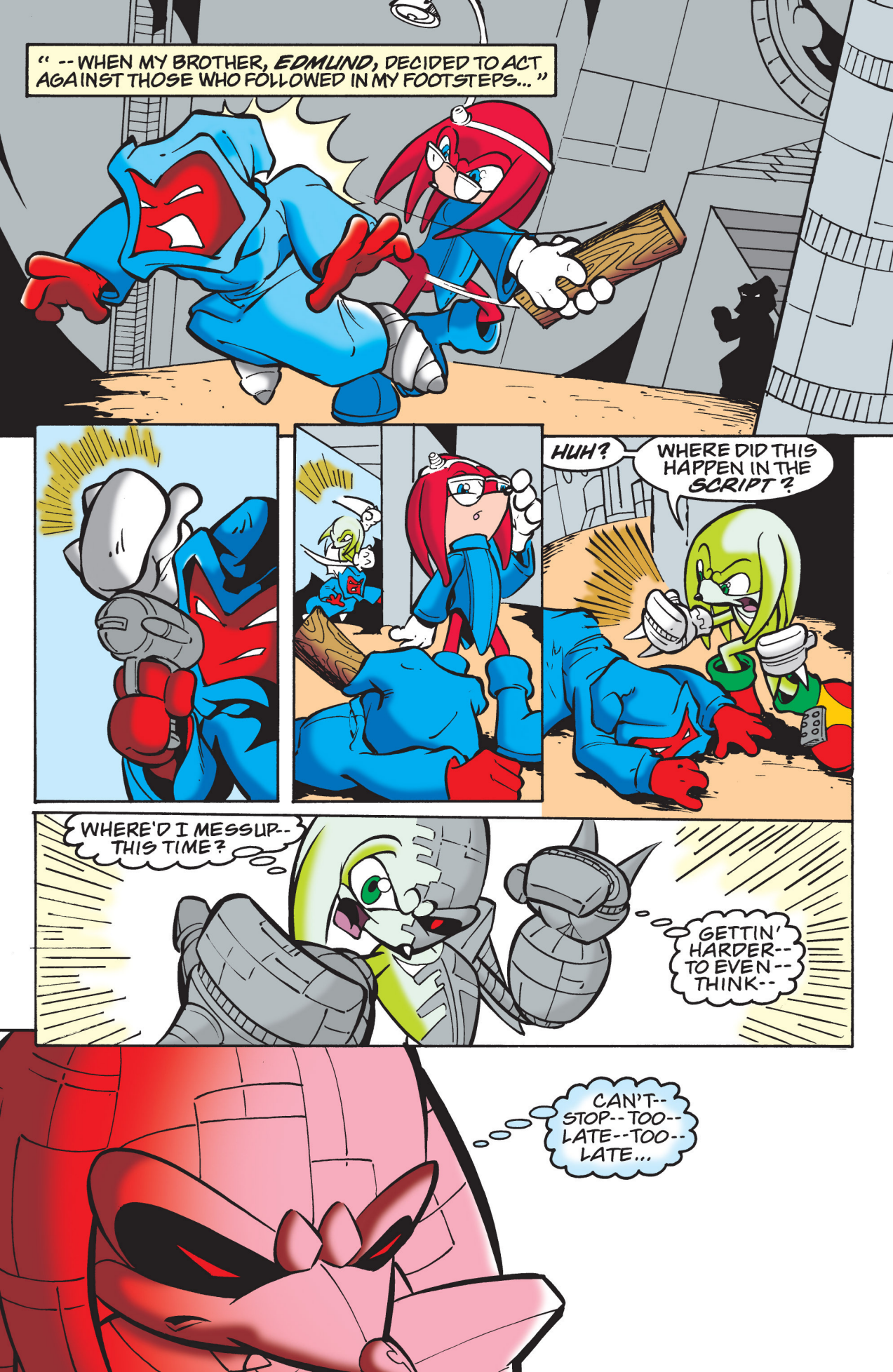


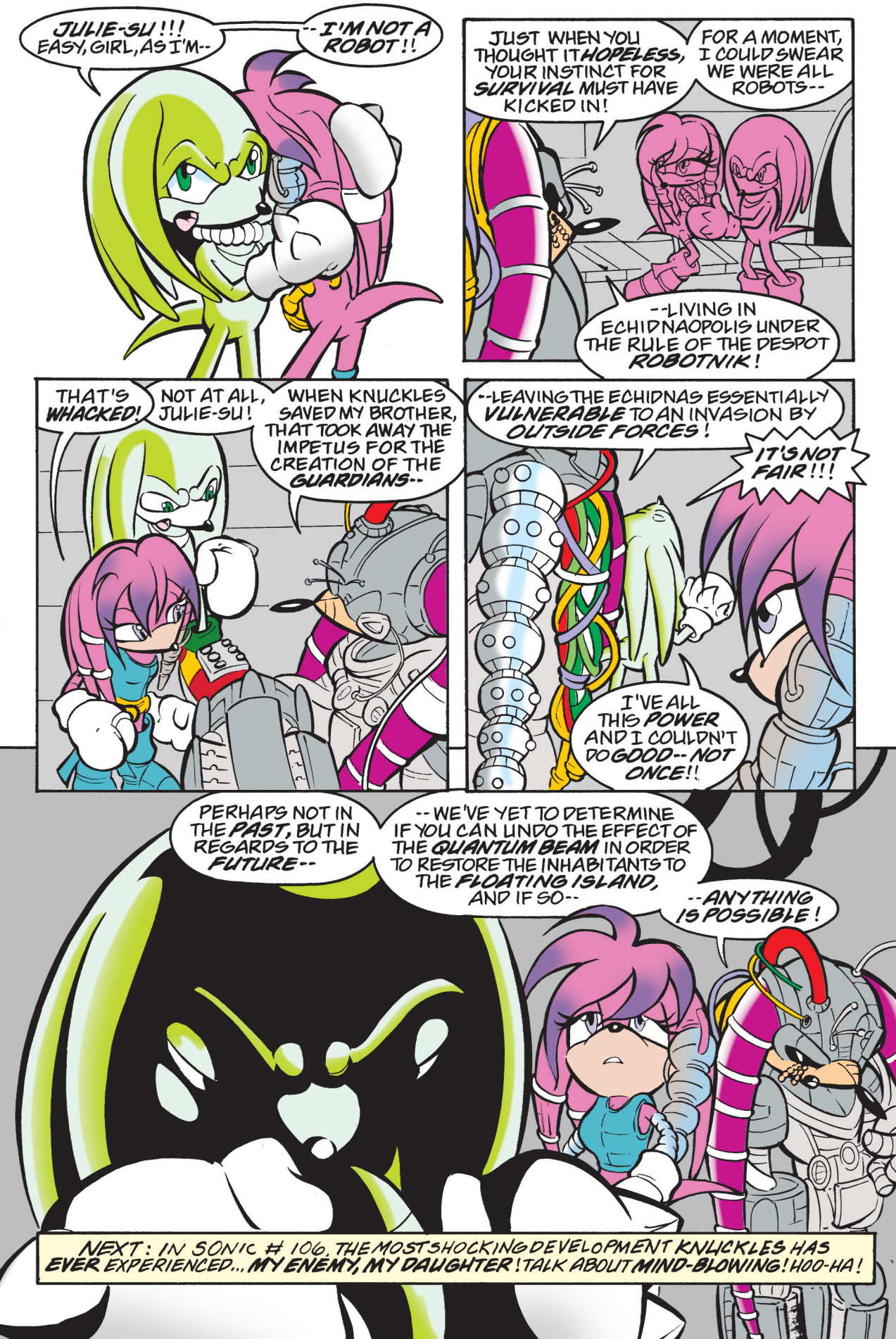
ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE ONGOING SAGA OF SEGA'S EVER-POPULAR ECHIDNA, BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
KEN PENDERS-WRITER KEN PENDERS & DAWN BEST-ARTISTS PAM EKLUND-INKER
VICKIE WILLIAMS-LETTERER FRANK G.-COLORIST JUSTIN GABRIE-EDITOR


GIVEN THE EXCELLENT PRESENTATION OF YOUR FACTS--
--YOUR PLAN TO RESTORE THE FLOATING ISLAND TO THE PLANETARY SURFACE IS HEREBY APPROVED!
WITH A ROOM FULL OF WITNESSES, FAT CHANCE ANYONE WILL BELIEVE THE MAGISTRATE IF HE TRIES OVERTURNING THAT RULING!
AND NO WAY WILL ANYONE GUESS IT WAS MY VOICE THEY HEARD OVER HIS!
"NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF THE PLAN TO KICK IN..."
WE'LL BE IN POSITION IN LESS THAN 30 SECONDS, DIMITRI!
AND IN LESS THAN 5 SECONDS, WE'LL BEGIN TO GRADUALLY SYPHON THE ENERGY FROM THE EMERALDS, DESCENDING LIKE A FEATHER DESPITE OUR SIZE AND MASS--
--TO THE LAND FROM WHENCE WE CAME, EDMUND!
WAIT, DIMITRI!!!


CAN'T YOU FEEL?!
THE DESCENT VELOCITY IS INCREASING!!
WE'RE GOING DOWN MUCH TOO FAST!
F-F-FEELS LIKE I'M BEING RIPPED APART!!
GOTTA HOLD IT-- TOGETHER--
WHOA!
ANYONE SEE THE SLEDGE HAMMER THAT BUSTED ME UP?
I TAKE IT THINGS DIDN'T GO ALL THAT WELL?
GIVE IT UP, KNUCKLES-- BEFORE WE ALL END UP PAYING FOR YOUR STUBBORNESS!
ME BEING STUBBORN?!!
TALK ABOUT THE POT CALLING THE KETTLE BLACK, UNC!
I JUST WATCHED YOUR ORIGINAL PLAN TURN INTO A DISASTER!

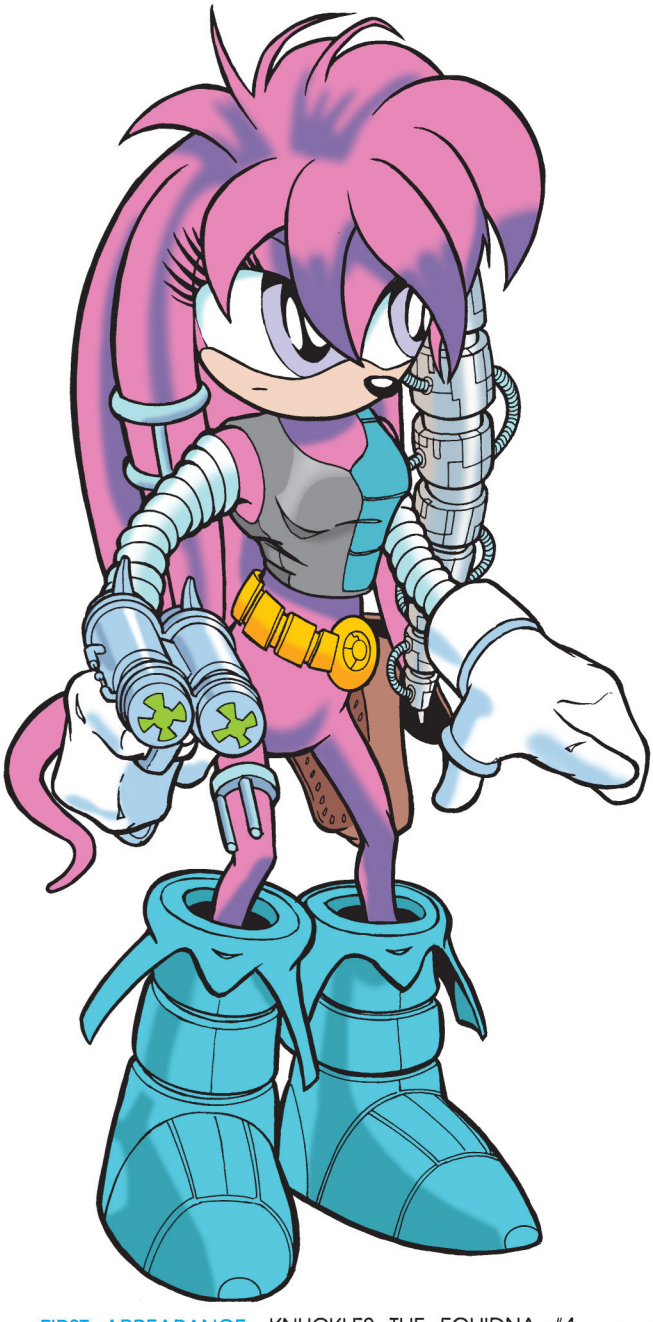

IS THAT SO?!! THEN HOW COME YOU AND I STILL EXIST?
YOU'RE THE SCIENTIFIC GENIUS OF THE FAMILY! YOU TELL ME!
WITHOUT ANY HARD DATA, MY BEST GUESS WOULD BE YOU STOPPED THE PROCESS BEFORE EVENTS BECAME IRREVERSIBLE!
HAD YOU NOT REACTED WHEN YOU DID, IN ALL PROBABILITY IT WOULD HAVE PROVEN FATAL FOR ALL CONCERNED!
HMMM...
"HMMM?"
WHY, YES! I BELIEVE I'M DISCERNING A PATTERN EMERGING!
IN HINDSIGHT, YOU WERE DOOMED TO FAILURE IN YOUR INITIAL ATTEMPT* BECAUSE OF NATURE!
*SEE LAST ISSUE-- HISTORIAN JUSTIN.
HOW?
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
IF THE COMET HADN'T DESTROYED THE LAND MASS THAT BECAME THE FLOATING ISLAND, THE EARTHQUAKE SURELY WOULD!
AS FOR THE SECOND FOCAL POINT, I MISSED SOME CRUCIAL PIECE OF DATA NECESSARY TO PRODUCE THE CORRECT CALCULATIONS.
WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT EXACTLY IS MISSING FROM THE FORMULA, CHANCES ARE THAT ANY EFFORT TO CONTINUE ALONG THE SAME TRACK WILL YIELD SIMILAR RESULTS!
WHICH LEAVES US WHERE?
AT THE ONE FOCAL POINT WHERE BEHAVIOR IS CAPABLE OF RESULTING IN A POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE--


" --WHEN MY BROTHER, EDMUND, DECIDED TO ACT AGAINST THOSE WHO FOLLOWED IN MY FOOTSTEPS..."
HUH?
WHERE DID THIS HAPPEN IN THE SCRIPT?
WHERE'D I MESSUP-- THIS TIME?
GETTIN' HARDER-- TO EVEN-- THINK--
CAN'T-- STOP-- TOO-- LATE-- TOO-- LATE...


JULIE-SU!!! EASY, GIRL, AS I'M--
--I'M NOT A ROBOT!!
JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT HOPELESS, YOUR INSTINCT FOR SURVIVAL MUST HAVE KICKED IN!
FOR A MOMENT, I COULD SWEAR WE WERE ALL ROBOTS--
--LIVING IN ECHIDNAOPOLIS UNDER THE RULE OF THE DESPOT ROBOTNIK!
THAT'S WHACKED!
NOT AT ALL, JULIE-SU!
WHEN KNUCKLES SAVED MY BROTHER, THAT TOOK AWAY THE IMPETUS FOR THE CREATION OF THE GUARDIANS--
--LEAVING THE ECHIDNAS ESSENTIALLY VULNERABLE TO AN INVASION BY OUTSIDE FORCES!
IT'S NOT FAIR!!!
I'VE ALL THIS POWER AND I COULDN'T DO GOOD-- NOT ONCE!!
PERHAPS NOT IN THE PAST, BUT IN REGARDS TO THE FUTURE--
--WE'VE YET TO DETERMINE IF YOU CAN UNDO THE EFFECT OF THE QUANTUM BEAM IN ORDER TO RESTORE THE INHABITANTS TO THE FLOATING ISLAND, AND IF SO--
--ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!
NEXT: IN SONIC # 106, THE MOST SHOCKING DEVELOPMENT KNUCKLES HAS EVER EXPERIENCED... MY ENEMY, MY DAUGHTER! TALK ABOUT MIND-BLOWING! HOO-HA!

SEGA DATA FILE: 4

JULIE-SU

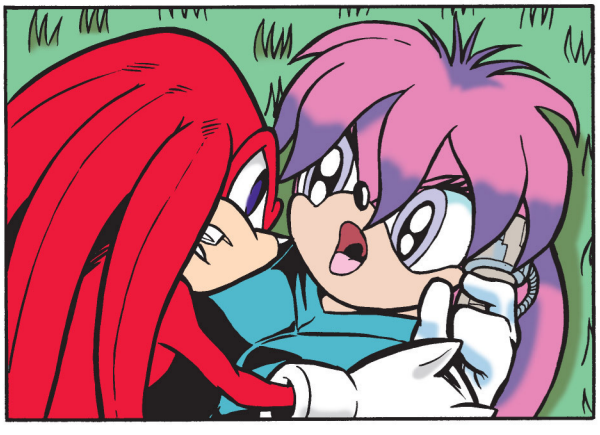


HISTORY: Julie-Su was born the daughter of Luger and his second wife Mari-Su. Almost from the very beginning, Julie-Su was treated like an unwelcome visitor by her older step-brother Kragok and his twin-sister Lien-Da, and virtually ignored by her father as he carried out his duties as the leader of the Dark Legion.

When Mari-Su met with a tragic accident of a most peculiar nature, Julie-Su was subjected to a memory wipe by Kragok and Lien-Da. They had far greater plans for the Dark Legion and no desire at all for their despised sibling to share in them, so she was placed in the care of an elderly echidna couple, Simon and Floren-Ca, who treated her as if she were their own natural daughter.

For the most part, Julie-Su grew up in a loving environment, unaware of the truth that Simon and Floren-Ca were warned never to reveal. Yet she always wondered why something felt missing in her life. Suppressing these feelings, she eventually assumed the duties of a support troop upon reaching the age of thirteen.

When the Dark Legion and Knuckles eventually clashed, the results were a destroyed headquarters complex and an angry Julie-Su separated from her compatriots. Upon discovering the crocodile Vector, she unleashed her fury on him, drawing the attention of Knuckles and his friends Charmy, Espio and Mighty. Because of her association with the Dark Legion, Julie-Su was mistrusted at first but gradually won over their respect and friendship.

She has since discovered the truth about her past and has developed a more romantic involvement with Knuckles, due to their unacknowledged recognition through a sixth sense the echidnas refer to as the "soultouch".

FIRST APPEARANCE: KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #4, August 1997.
FULL NAME: Julie-Su of the House of Dimitri
RANK: Former Dark Legionnaire, support
BORN: 277 / 3221 EYES: Deep violet
HAIR: Rose pink with lavender bangs
HEIGHT: 84 marks WEIGHT: 7.3 stone
WEAPONS: Double-barrel multi-purpose proton gun, taser
KNOWN FAMILY: Luger (father - whereabouts unknown), Mari-Su of the House of Atrades (mother - deceased), Kragok (step-brother - deceased), Lien-Da (step-sister), Simon (foster father), Floren-Ca (foster mother), Moritori Rex (grandfather), Dimitri (great-great-grandfather)
KNOWN FRIENDS: Knuckles, Mighty, Espio, Charmy, Vector, Lara-Le, Constable Remington